

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

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**ORDER R5-2014-XXXX
NPDES NO. CA0077933**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
CITY OF WILLIAMS
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
COLUSA COUNTY**

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements (WDR's) set forth in this Order:

Table 1. Discharger Information

Discharger	City of Williams
Name of Facility	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	700 B Street
	Williams, CA 95987
	Colusa County

Table 2. Discharge Location

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude (North)	Discharge Point Longitude (West)	Receiving Water
001	Tertiary Treated Effluent	39° 10' 11" N	122° 9' 13" W	Salt Creek

Table 3. Administrative Information

This Order was adopted on:	5/6 June 2014
This Order shall become effective on:	1 August 2014
This Order shall expire on:	5/6 June 2019
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge as an application for reissuance of WDR's in accordance with title 23, California Code of Regulations, and an application for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit no later than:	1 January 2019
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region have classified this discharge as follows:	Minor

I, **PAMELA C. CREEDON**, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of the Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on **5/6 June 2014**.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

CONTENTS

I.	Facility Information	3
II.	Findings	3
III.	Discharge Prohibitions	4
IV.	Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications	4
	A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001	4
	1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001	4
	2. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable	5
	B. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable	5
	C. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable	5
V.	Receiving Water Limitations	5
	A. Surface Water Limitations	5
	B. Groundwater Limitations	7
VI.	Provisions	7
	A. Standard Provisions	7
	B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements	11
	C. Special Provisions	11
	1. Reopener Provisions	11
	2. Special Studies, Technical Reports and Additional Monitoring Requirements	12
	3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention	15
	4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications	1546
	5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)	16
	6. Other Special Provisions	18
	7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable	18
VII.	Compliance Determination	18

TABLES

Table 1.	Discharger Information	1
Table 2.	Discharge Location	1
Table 3.	Administrative Information	1
Table 4.	Effluent Limitations	4

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Definitions	A-1
Attachment B – Map	B-1
Attachment C – Flow Schematic	C-1
Attachment D – Standard Provisions	D-1
Attachment E – Monitoring and Reporting Program	E-1
Attachment F – Fact Sheet	F-1
Attachment G – Summary of Reasonable Potential Analysis for Constituents of Concern	G-1
Attachment H – Calculation of WQBELS	H-1

I. FACILITY INFORMATION

Information describing the City of Williams, Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) is summarized in Table 1 and in sections I and II of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F). Section I of the Fact Sheet also includes information regarding the Facility's permit application.

II. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereinafter Central Valley Water Board), finds:

- A. Legal Authorities.** This Order serves as WDR's pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this Facility to surface waters.
- B. Background and Rationale for Requirements.** The Central Valley Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the application, through monitoring and reporting programs, and other available information. The Fact Sheet (Attachment F), which contains background information and rationale for the requirements in this Order, is hereby incorporated into and constitutes Findings for this Order. Attachments A through E and G through H are also incorporated into this Order.
- C. Provisions and Requirements Implementing State Law.** The provisions/requirements in subsection V.B are included to implement State law only. These provisions/requirements are not required or authorized under the federal CWA; consequently, violations of these provisions/requirements are not subject to the enforcement remedies that are available for NPDES violations.
- D. Monitoring and Reporting.** 40 CFR 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment E.

The technical and monitoring reports in this Order are required in accordance with Water Code section 13267, which states the following in subsection (b)(1), *"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."*

The Discharger owns and operates the Facility subject to this Order. The monitoring reports required by this Order are necessary to determine compliance with this Order. The need for the monitoring reports is discussed in the Fact Sheet.

- E. Notification of Interested Parties.** The Central Valley Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of the notification are provided in the Fact Sheet.
- F. Consideration of Public Comment.** The Central Valley Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge. Details of the Public Hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order R5-2008-0185-01 is rescinded upon the effective date of this Order except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the CWA and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order. This action in no way prevents the Central Valley Water Board from taking enforcement action for past violations of the previous Order.

III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

- A.** Discharge of wastewater from the Facility, as the Facility is specifically described in the Fact Sheet in section II.B, in a manner different from that described in this Order is prohibited.
- B.** The by-pass or overflow of wastes to surface waters is prohibited, except as allowed by Federal Standard Provisions I.G. and I.H. (Attachment D).
- C.** Neither the discharge nor its treatment shall create a nuisance as defined in section 13050 of the Water Code.
- D.** The Discharger shall not allow pollutant-free wastewater to be discharged into the treatment or disposal system in amounts that significantly diminish the system's capability to comply with this Order. Pollutant-free wastewater means rainfall, groundwater, cooling waters, and condensates that are essentially free of pollutants.

IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

A. Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

1. Final Effluent Limitations – Discharge Point 001

The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations at Discharge Point 001, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001, unless specified differently below, as described in the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E:

- a. The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the effluent limitations specified in Table 4:

Table 4. Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	4042	63	83	--	--

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	40 42	63	83	--	--
Non-Conventional Pollutants						
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	0.9	--	1.8	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	3.8	--	7.5	--	--
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on an average dry weather flow of 0.5 MGD.

- b. **Percent Removal:** The average monthly percent removal of 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and total suspended solids (TSS) shall not be less than 85 percent.
- c. **Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity.** Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:
 - i. 70%, minimum for any one bioassay; and
 - ii. 90%, median for any three consecutive bioassays.
- d. **Total Coliform Organisms.** Effluent total coliform organisms shall not exceed the following, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location UVS-002:
 - i. 2.2 most probable number (MPN) per 100 mL, as a 7-day median;
 - ii. 23 MPN/100 mL, more than once in any 30-day period; and
 - iii. 240 MPN/100 mL, at any time.
- e. **Average Dry Weather Flow.** The average dry weather discharge flow shall not exceed 0.5 MGD.
- f. **Electrical Conductivity.** For a calendar year, the annual average effluent electrical conductivity concentration shall not exceed 2,300 µmhos/cm.
- g. **Mercury, Total.** The total annual mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.0168 lbs/year.

2. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

B. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

C. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water Limitations

The discharge shall not cause the following in Salt Creek:

1. **Bacteria.** The fecal coliform concentration, based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period, to exceed a geometric mean of 200 MPN/100 mL, nor more than 10 percent of the total number of fecal coliform samples taken during any 30-day period to exceed 400 MPN/100 mL.
2. **Biostimulatory Substances.** Water to contain biostimulatory substances which promote aquatic growths in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

3. **Chemical Constituents.** Chemical constituents to be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.
4. **Color.** Discoloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.
5. **Dissolved Oxygen:**
 - a. The monthly median of the mean daily dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 85 percent of saturation in the main water mass;
 - b. The 95 percentile dissolved oxygen concentration to fall below 75 percent of saturation; nor
 - c. The dissolved oxygen concentration to be reduced below 7.0 mg/L at any time.
6. **Floating Material.** Floating material to be present in amounts that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
7. **Oil and Grease.** Oils, greases, waxes, or other materials to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
8. **pH.** The pH to be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5.
9. **Pesticides:**
 - a. Pesticides to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
 - b. Pesticides to be present in bottom sediments or aquatic life in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses;
 - c. Total identifiable persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides to be present in the water column at concentrations detectable within the accuracy of analytical methods approved by USEPA or the Executive Officer;
 - d. Pesticide concentrations to exceed those allowable by applicable antidegradation policies (see State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 CFR 131.12.);
 - e. Pesticide concentrations to exceed the lowest levels technically and economically achievable;
 - f. Pesticides to be present in concentration in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) set forth in CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 15; nor
 - g. Thiobencarb to be present in excess of 1.0 µg/L.
10. **Radioactivity:**
 - a. Radionuclides to be present in concentrations that are harmful to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life nor that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
 - b. Radionuclides to be present in excess of the MCLs specified in Table 64442 of section 64442 and Table 64443 of section 64443 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
11. **Suspended Sediments.** The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters to be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
12. **Settleable Substances.** Substances to be present in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

13. **Suspended Material.** Suspended material to be present in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
14. **Taste and Odors.** Taste- or odor-producing substances to be present in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
15. **Temperature.** The natural temperature to be increased by more than 5°F. A 1-month averaging period may be used when determining compliance based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.
16. **Toxicity.** Toxic substances to be present, individually or in combination, in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.
17. **Turbidity:**
 - a. Shall not exceed 2 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) where natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU;
 - b. Shall not increase more than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs;
 - c. Shall not increase more than 20 percent where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs;
 - d. Shall not increase more than 10 NTU where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs; nor
 - e. Shall not increase more than 10 percent where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs.

~~When wastewater is treated to a tertiary level (including coagulation) or equivalent, a 1-month averaging period may be used when determining compliance with this receiving water limitation.~~When treated wastewater is in compliance with the Filtration System Operating Specifications in section VI.C.4.a, a 1-month averaging period may be used when determining compliance with the turbidity receiving water limitation. If the treated wastewater is not in compliance with section VI.C.4.a, then an averaging period is not allowed.

B. Groundwater Limitations

1. The discharge shall not cause the groundwater to exceed water quality objectives, unreasonably affect beneficial uses, or cause a condition of pollution or nuisance.
2. ~~Release of waste constituents from any storage, treatment, or disposal component associated with the Facility shall not, in combination with other sources of the waste constituents, cause groundwater within influence of the Facility to contain waste constituents in concentrations in excess of natural background quality or that listed below, whichever is greater.~~The discharge shall not cause the groundwater to exceed that listed below or background quality, whichever is greater:
 - a. Total coliform organisms median of 2.2 MPN/100 mL over any 7-day period.

VI. PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions included in Attachment D.

2. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions. In the event that there is any conflict, duplication, or overlap between provisions specified by this Order, the more stringent provision shall apply:
- a. If the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant is publicly owned or subject to regulation by California Public Utilities Commission, it shall be supervised and operated by persons possessing certificates of appropriate grade according to Title 23, CCR, division 3, chapter 26.
 - b. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to:
 - i. violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;
 - ii. obtaining this Order by misrepresentation or by failing to disclose fully all relevant facts;
 - iii. a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; and
 - iv. a material change in the character, location, or volume of discharge.

The causes for modification include:

- *New regulations.* New regulations have been promulgated under section 405(d) of the CWA, or the standards or regulations on which the permit was based have been changed by promulgation of amended standards or regulations or by judicial decision after the permit was issued.
- *Land application plans.* When required by a permit condition to incorporate a land application plan for beneficial reuse of sewage sludge, to revise an existing land application plan, or to add a land application plan.
- *Change in sludge use or disposal practice.* Under 40 CFR 122.62(a)(1), a change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practice is a cause for modification of the permit. It is cause for revocation and reissuance if the Discharger requests or agrees.

The Central Valley Water Board may review and revise this Order at any time upon application of any affected person or the Central Valley Water Board's own motion.

- c. If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any scheduled compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under section 307(a) of the CWA, or amendments thereto, for a toxic pollutant that is present in the discharge authorized herein, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in this Order, the Central Valley Water Board will revise or modify this Order in accordance with such toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards and prohibitions within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified.

- d. This Order shall be modified, or alternately revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable effluent standard or limitation issued or approved under sections 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the CWA, if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:

- i. Contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the Order; or
- ii. Controls any pollutant limited in the Order.

The Order, as modified or reissued under this paragraph, shall also contain any other requirements of the CWA then applicable.

- e. The provisions of this Order are severable. If any provision of this Order is found invalid, the remainder of this Order shall not be affected.
- f. The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse effects to waters of the State or users of those waters resulting from any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order. Reasonable steps shall include such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the non-complying discharge or sludge use or disposal.
- g. The Discharger shall ensure compliance with any existing or future pretreatment standard promulgated by USEPA under section 307 of the CWA, or amendment thereto, for any discharge to the municipal system.
- h. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel. Key operating personnel shall be familiar with its content.
- i. Safeguard to electric power failure:
 - i. The Discharger shall provide safeguards to assure that, should there be reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the discharge shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order.
 - ii. Upon written request by the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a written description of safeguards. Such safeguards may include alternate power sources, standby generators, retention capacity, operating procedures, or other means. A description of the safeguards provided shall include an analysis of the frequency, duration, and impact of power failures experienced over the past 5 years on effluent quality and on the capability of the Discharger to comply with the terms and conditions of the Order. The adequacy of the safeguards is subject to the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.
 - iii. Should the treatment works not include safeguards against reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, or should the Central Valley Water Board not approve the existing safeguards, the Discharger shall, within 90 days of having been advised in writing by the Central Valley Water Board that the existing safeguards are inadequate, provide to the Central Valley Water Board and USEPA a schedule of compliance for providing safeguards such that in the event of reduction, loss, or failure of electric power, the Discharger shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Order. The schedule of compliance shall, upon approval of the Central Valley Water Board, become a condition of this Order.
- j. The Discharger, upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, shall file with the Board a technical report on its preventive (failsafe) and contingency (cleanup) plans for controlling accidental discharges, and for minimizing the effect of such events. This report may be combined with that required under the Central Valley Water Board Standard Provision contained in section VI.A.2.i of this Order.

The technical report shall:

- i. Identify the possible sources of spills, leaks, untreated waste by-pass, and contaminated drainage. Loading and storage areas, power outage, waste treatment unit outage, and failure of process equipment, tanks and pipes should be considered.
- ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of present facilities and procedures and state when they became operational.
- iii. Predict the effectiveness of the proposed facilities and procedures and provide an implementation schedule containing interim and final dates when they will be constructed, implemented, or operational.

The Central Valley Water Board, after review of the technical report, may establish conditions which it deems necessary to control accidental discharges and to minimize the effects of such events. Such conditions shall be incorporated as part of this Order, upon notice to the Discharger.

- k. A publicly owned treatment works whose waste flow has been increasing, or is projected to increase, shall estimate when flows will reach hydraulic and treatment capacities of its treatment and disposal facilities. The projections shall be made in January, based on the last 3 years' average dry weather flows, peak wet weather flows and total annual flows, as appropriate. When any projection shows that capacity of any part of the facilities may be exceeded in 4 years, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by 31 January. A copy of the notification shall be sent to appropriate local elected officials, local permitting agencies and the press. Within 120 days of the notification, the Discharger shall submit a technical report showing how it will prevent flow volumes from exceeding capacity or how it will increase capacity to handle the larger flows. The Central Valley Water Board may extend the time for submitting the report.
- l. The Discharger shall submit technical reports as directed by the Executive Officer. All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code, sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1. To demonstrate compliance with Title 16, CCR, sections 415 and 3065, all technical reports must contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports must bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner such that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.
- m. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.
- n. For publicly owned treatment works, prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a permanent decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. (Water Code section 1211).
- o. Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, or violation of other applicable laws or regulations governing discharges from this facility, may subject

the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies to ensure compliance. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities.

- p. In the event the Discharger does not comply or will be unable to comply for any reason, with any prohibition, maximum daily effluent limitation, hourly average effluent limitation, or receiving water limitation of this Order, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by telephone (916) 464-3291 within 24 hours of having knowledge of such noncompliance, and shall confirm this notification in writing within five days, unless the Central Valley Water Board waives confirmation. The written notification shall state the nature, time, duration, and cause of noncompliance, and shall describe the measures being taken to remedy the current noncompliance and prevent recurrence including, where applicable, a schedule of implementation. Other noncompliance requires written notification as above at the time of the normal monitoring report.

B. Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Requirements

The Discharger shall comply with the MRP, and future revisions thereto, in Attachment E.

C. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

- a. Conditions that necessitate a major modification of a permit are described in 40 CFR 122.62, including, but not limited to:
 - i. If new or amended applicable water quality standards are promulgated or approved pursuant to section 303 of the CWA, or amendments thereto, this permit may be reopened and modified in accordance with the new or amended standards.
 - ii. When new information, that was not available at the time of permit issuance, would have justified different permit conditions at the time of issuance.
- b. This Order may be reopened for modification, or revocation and reissuance, as a result of the detection of a reportable priority pollutant generated by special conditions included in this Order. These special conditions may be, but are not limited to, fish tissue sampling, whole effluent toxicity, monitoring requirements on internal waste stream(s), and monitoring for surrogate parameters. Additional requirements may be included in this Order as a result of the special condition monitoring data.
- c. **Mercury.** If mercury is found to be causing toxicity based on acute or chronic toxicity test results, or if a TMDL program is adopted, this Order shall be reopened and the mass effluent limitation modified (higher or lower) or an effluent concentration limitation imposed. If the Central Valley Water Board determines that a mercury offset program is feasible for Dischargers subject to a NPDES permit, then this Order may be reopened to reevaluate the mercury mass loading limitation(s) and the need for a mercury offset program for the Discharger.
- d. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** As a result of a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE), this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant identified in the TRE. Additionally, if the State Water Board revises the SIP's toxicity control provisions that would require the establishment of numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitations,

this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity effluent limitation based on the new provisions.

- e. **Water Effects Ratios (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating criteria for applicable inorganic constituents. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.
- f. **Drinking Water Policy.** On 26 July 2013 the Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2013-0098 amending the Basin Plan and establishing a Drinking Water Policy. The State Water Board approved the Drinking Water Policy on 3 December 2013. This Order may be reopened to incorporate monitoring of drinking water constituents to implement the Drinking Water Policy
- g. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection Operating Specifications.** The UV operating specifications in this Order are based on the UV guidelines developed by the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) and American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWRF) titled, "*Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Water Reuse*." If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that identifies site-specific UV operating specifications that will achieve the virus inactivation equivalent to Title 22 disinfected tertiary recycled water, this Order may be reopened to modify the UV operating specifications.

2. Special Studies, Technical Reports, and Additional Monitoring Requirements

- a. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity.** For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing, as specified in MRP section V. Furthermore, this Provision requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge exceeds the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring established in this Provision, the Discharger is required to initiate a TRE in accordance with an approved TRE Work Plan, and take actions to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent recurrence of toxicity. A TRE is a site-specific study conducted in a stepwise process to identify the source(s) of toxicity and the effective control measures for effluent toxicity. TREs are designed to identify the causative agents and sources of whole effluent toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of the toxicity control options, and confirm the reduction in effluent toxicity. This Provision includes procedures for accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring and TRE initiation.
 - i. **Accelerated Monitoring and TRE Initiation.** When the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity monitoring, and the testing meets all test acceptability criteria, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring as required in the Accelerated Monitoring Specifications. The Discharger shall initiate a TRE to address effluent toxicity if any WET testing results exceed the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring.
 - ii. **Numeric Toxicity Monitoring Trigger.** The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger to initiate a TRE is $>1 \text{ TUc}$ (where $\text{TUc} = 100/\text{NOEC}$). The monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to begin accelerated monitoring and initiate a TRE.

iii. **Accelerated Monitoring Specifications.** If the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is exceeded during regular chronic toxicity testing, the Discharger shall initiate accelerated monitoring within 14-days of notification by the laboratory of the exceedance. Accelerated monitoring shall consist of four chronic toxicity tests conducted once every two weeks using the species that exhibited toxicity. The following protocol shall be used for accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation:

- (a) If the results of four consecutive accelerated monitoring tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring. However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of a pattern of effluent toxicity, the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.
- (b) If the source(s) of the toxicity is easily identified (e.g., temporary plant upset), the Discharger shall make necessary corrections to the facility and shall continue accelerated monitoring until four consecutive accelerated tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger. Upon confirmation that the effluent toxicity has been removed, the Discharger may cease accelerated monitoring and resume regular chronic toxicity monitoring.
- (c) If the result of any accelerated toxicity test exceeds the monitoring trigger, the Discharger shall cease accelerated monitoring and begin a TRE to investigate the cause(s) of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. Within thirty (30) days of notification by the laboratory of any test result exceeding the monitoring trigger during accelerated monitoring, the Discharger shall submit a TRE Action Plan to the Central Valley Water Board including, at minimum:
 - (1) Specific actions the Discharger will take to investigate and identify the cause(s) of toxicity, including a TRE WET monitoring schedule;
 - (2) Specific actions the Discharger will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and
 - (3) A schedule for these actions.

Within sixty (60) days of notification by the laboratory of the test results, the Discharger shall submit to the Central Valley Water Board a TRE Workplan for approval by the Executive Officer. The TRE Workplan shall outline the procedures for identifying the source(s) of, and reducing or eliminating effluent toxicity. The TRE Workplan must be developed in accordance with USEPA guidance¹.

- b. **Groundwater Monitoring and Evaluation.** Groundwater monitoring results have shown higher concentrations of EC, TDS, nitrate, and total coliform organisms in historically defined compliance wells than have been observed in the historically defined upgradient well. ~~However, The Discharger reports that a more thorough geo-forensic investigation (e.g., making use of expanded water chemistry and stable isotopes) is required to establish the cause of the elevated concentrations, as there are numerous sources that contribute to groundwater quality within the installed monitoring well network. The Discharger has not submitted studies that fully~~

¹ See the Fact Sheet (Attachment F section VII.B.2.a.) for a list of USEPA guidance documents that must be considered in development of the TRE Workplan.

~~establish background groundwater quality or appropriately defined appropriate groundwater limitations that protect the beneficial uses. Because the costs to undertake these studies are significant, and the upgrades to the treatment facility (e.g., conversion of ponds to activated sludge, ¹⁷the lining of several ponds, and the infrequent discharge to unlined ponds) likely eliminates any further impact to groundwater, groundwater limitations for EC, TDS, and nitrate have not been included in this Order. An effluent limitation for total coliform organisms as a median of 2.2 MPN/100 mL over any 7-day period, is retained in this Order from the previous NPDES Permit because the total coliform groundwater data showed no obvious trends. This Order requires the Discharger to submit a report documenting past efforts to remove wastes from the storage basins. This Order also requires the Discharger to continue groundwater monitoring in accordance with section VIII.B of the MRP (Attachment E), to prepare groundwater trend analyses, and to submit annual updates evaluating pollutant concentration trends. The Discharger shall continue to conduct groundwater monitoring in accordance with section VIII.B of the MRP (Attachment E). The intent of the continued groundwater monitoring and trend analyses is to provide enough information at the end of this permit term for Central Valley Water Board to determine whether the effluent limitations for total coliform organisms may be removed from the next permit and whether continued groundwater monitoring is warranted.~~

The Discharger shall:

- i. Submit a report documenting past efforts to remove sludge, solid wastes, and soils from Ponds 1 through 4 prior to construction of the new ponds and facilities. The report shall include but not be limited to volume of solids removed, pond bottom depth after solids removal, and any laboratory analytical results already obtained.
- ii. Submit a report evaluating pollutant concentrations in the underlying groundwater from 1 January 2010 ~~to present~~through 31 December 2014. For electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, nitrate, and total coliform organisms, the report shall contain groundwater trend-plots and conclusions.
- iii. Submit annual updates of the groundwater trend analysis for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, nitrate, and total coliform organisms including data from 1 January 2010 through December 2015, December 2016, December 2017, and December 2018.
- iv. The Discharger shall submit these reports by the following dates:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Compliance Date</u>
i. Submit report on removal of solid wastes from ponds.	1 February 2015
ii. Submit groundwater trend report using data from 1 January 2010 through 31 December 2014	1 AugustFebruary 2015
iii. Submit annual groundwater trend updates <u>showing data from 1 January 2010 through December 2015, December 2016, December 2017, and December 2018.</u>	1 MarchFebruary 2016 and annually thereafter.

- c. **Survey and Evaluation of Influent Salinity Sources.** ~~The Discharger shall survey and evaluate the potential salinity contributions from local users of the facility collection and treatment systems. The Discharger shall submit a report that lists the local users, the salinity (as electrical conductivity) concentrations in the local user's wastewater, and the local user's percent contribution to the total electrical conductivity concentrations in the City's influent. The Discharger shall also summarize in the report the actions taken (or that will be taken) to reduce electrical conductivity concentration in the influent. This report shall be submitted no later than the following compliance date:~~ The Discharger shall determine the basis for the observed effluent salinity concentrations and report the findings. The basis shall be determined by reporting the salinity load originating from the municipal water supply and describing the additional loads associated with residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Monitoring may be required of specific discharger(s) or collection system branches to allow for the development of an accurate salinity model. The final report shall include the Discharger's proposal to reduce salinity concentrations within the effluent discharge, including projected timelines. The Discharger, in the final report, may also propose site-specific salinity objective based upon the factual findings of this study. This report shall be submitted no later than the following compliance date:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Compliance Date</u>
i. Submit Final <u>Report on salinity source survey and evaluation</u>	1 August 2015
ii. <u>Implement Source Reductions or Controls</u>	<u>Within 6 months following approval by Executive Officer</u>

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

- a. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** Upon completion and compliance with previous section VI.C.2.c. Survey and Evaluation of Influent Salinity Sources, the Discharger shall update their 4 September 2009 Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan with the actions to identify and address sources of salinity in the influent, and include any additional measures to reduce salinity within the Facility as applicable. The plan shall identify reductions in influent and effluent, and shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board **by 1 March August 2016, and annually thereafter.**

4. Construction, Operation and Maintenance Specifications

- a. **Filtration System Operating Specifications.** To ensure the filtration system is operating properly to provide adequate disinfection of the wastewater, the turbidity of the filter effluent measured at Monitoring Location FIL-001 shall not exceed:
- 2 NTU, as a daily average;
 - 5 NTU, more than 5% of the time within a 24-hour period;
 - 10 NTU, at any time.
- b. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System Operating Specifications.** The UV disinfection system must be operated in accordance with an operations and maintenance program that assures adequate disinfection, and shall meet the following minimum specifications to provide virus inactivation equivalent to Title 22 Disinfected Tertiary Recycled Water:

- i. **UV Dose.** The minimum hourly average UV dose in the UV reactor shall be 100 millijoules per square centimeter (mJ/cm^2).
 - ii. **UV Transmittance.** The minimum hourly average UV transmittance (at 254 nanometers) in the wastewater measured at Monitoring Location UVS-001 shall not fall below 55 percent.
 - iii. The lamp sleeves and cleaning system components must be visually inspected per the manufacturer's operations manual for physical wear (scoring, solarization, seal leaks, cleaning fluid levels, etc.) and to check the efficacy of the cleaning system.
 - iv. The lamp sleeves must be cleaned periodically as necessary to meet the UV dose requirements.
 - v. Lamps must be replaced per the manufacturer's operations manual, or sooner, if there are indications the lamps are failing to provide adequate disinfection. Lamp age and lamp replacement records must be maintained.
- c. The treatment facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

- a. **Sludge/Biosolids Treatment or Discharge Specifications.** Sludge in this document means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes. Solid waste refers to grit and screening material generated during preliminary treatment. Residual sludge means sludge that will not be subject to further treatment at the wastewater treatment plant. Biosolids refer to sewage that has been treated and tested and shown to be capable of being beneficially and legally used pursuant to federal and state regulations as a soil amendment for agricultural, silvicultural, horticultural, and land reclamation activities as specified under 40 CFR Part 503.
- i. Collected screenings, residual sludge, biosolids, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Executive Officer, and consistent with Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Solid Waste, as set forth in Title 27, CCR, division 2, subdivision 1, section 20005, et seq. Removal for further treatment, storage, disposal, or reuse at sites (e.g., landfill, composting sites, soil amendment sites) that are operated in accordance with valid waste discharge requirements issued by a Regional Water Board will satisfy these specifications.
- Sludge and solid waste shall be removed from screens, sumps, ponds, clarifiers, etc. as needed to ensure optimal plant performance.
- The treatment of sludge generated at the Facility shall be confined to the Facility property and conducted in a manner that precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations in section V.B. of this Order. In addition, the storage of residual sludge, solid waste, and biosolids on Facility property shall be temporary and controlled, and contained in a manner that minimizes leachate formation and precludes infiltration of waste constituents into soils in a mass or concentration that will violate groundwater limitations included in section V.B. of this Order.
- ii. The use, disposal, storage, and transportation of biosolids shall comply with existing federal and state laws and regulations, including permitting

requirements and technical standards included in 40 CFR Part 503. If the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board are given the authority to implement regulations contained in 40 CFR Part 503, this Order may be reopened to incorporate appropriate time schedules and technical standards. The Discharger must comply with the standards and time schedules contained in 40 CFR Part 503 whether or not they have been incorporated into this Order.

- iii. The Discharger shall comply with Section IX.A. Biosolids of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, Attachment E.
 - iv. Any proposed change in biosolids use or disposal practice from a previously approved practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer and USEPA Regional Administrator at least **90 days** in advance of the change.
 - v. **Within 180 days of the permit effective date**, the Discharger shall submit a biosolids use or disposal plan to the Central Valley Water Board. The plan shall describe at a minimum:
 - (a) Sources and amounts of biosolids generated annually.
 - (b) Location(s) of on-site storage and description of the containment area.
 - (c) Plans for ultimate disposal. For landfill disposal, include the present classification of the landfill and the name and location of the landfill.
 - vi. The Discharger is encouraged to comply with the "Manual of Good Practice for Agricultural Land Application of Biosolids" developed by the California Water Environment Association.
 - vii. Use of biosolids as a soil amendment shall comply with valid WDRs issued by the State or Regional Water Boards. In most cases, this means the WDRs contained in the State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-0012-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Biosolids to Land for Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural, and Land Reclamation Activities (Biosolids General Order). For a biosolids use project to be covered by the Biosolids General Order, the Discharger must file a complete Notice of Intent and receive a Notice of Applicability for each project.
- b. **Collection System.** The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on 2 May 2006. The Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for the General Order were amended by Water Quality Order WQ 2008-0002-EXEC on 20 February 2008. The General Order requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than one mile of pipes or sewer lines to enroll for coverage under the General Order. The General Order requires agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMPs) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), among other requirements and prohibitions.
- Furthermore, the General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. The Discharger is enrolled under State Water Board General Order No-2006-003-DWQ.
- c. **Anaerobically Digestible Material.** If the Discharger proposes to receive hauled-in anaerobically digestible material for injection into an anaerobic digester for co-digestion, the Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board and develop

and implement standard operating procedures (SOP's) for this activity prior to initiation of the hauling. The SOP's shall address material handling, including unloading, screening, or other processing prior to anaerobic digestion; transportation; spill prevention; and spill response. In addition, the SOP's shall address avoidance of the introduction of materials that could cause interference, pass-through, or upset of the treatment processes; avoidance of prohibited material, vector control, odor control, operation and maintenance, and the disposition of any solid waste segregated from introduction to the digester. The Discharger shall provide training to its staff on the SOP's and shall maintain records for a minimum of three years for each load received, describing the hauler, waste type, and quantity received. In addition, the Discharger shall maintain records for a minimum of three years for the disposition, location, and quantity of cumulative pre-digestion-segregated solid waste hauled off-site.

6. Other Special Provisions

- a. Wastewater shall be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to the Department of Public Health (DPH; formerly the Department of Health Services) reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3, (Title 22), or equivalent.

7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable

VII. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

- A. BOD₅ and TSS Effluent Limitations (Sections IV.A.1.a and IV.A.1.b).** Compliance with the final effluent limitations for BOD₅ and TSS required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.a shall be ascertained by 24-hour composite samples. Compliance with effluent limitations required in Limitations and Discharge Requirements section IV.A.1.b for percent removal shall be calculated using the arithmetic mean of BOD₅ and TSS in effluent samples collected over a monthly period as a percentage of the arithmetic mean of the values for influent samples collected at approximately the same times during the same period.
- B. Total Mercury Mass Loading Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.g).** The procedures for calculating mass loadings are as follows:
 1. The total pollutant mass load for each individual calendar month shall be determined using an average of all concentration data collected that month and the corresponding total monthly flow. All effluent monitoring data collected under the monitoring and reporting program, pretreatment program, and any special studies shall be used for these calculations. The total annual mass loading shall be the sum of the individual calendar months.
 2. In calculating compliance, the Discharger shall count all non-detect measures at one-half of the detection level. If compliance with the effluent limitation is not attained due to the non-detect contribution, the Discharger shall improve and implement available analytical capabilities and compliance shall be evaluated with consideration of the detection limits.
- C. Average Dry Weather Flow Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.e).** The average dry weather discharge flow represents the daily average flow when groundwater is at or near normal and runoff is not occurring. Compliance with the average dry weather flow effluent limitations will be determined annually based on the average daily flow over three consecutive dry weather months (e.g., July, August, and September).
- D. Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations (Section IV.A.1.d).** For each day that an effluent sample is collected and analyzed for total coliform organisms, the 7-day

median shall be determined by calculating the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the effluent utilizing the bacteriological results of the last 7 days. For example, if a sample is collected on a Wednesday, the result from that sampling event and all results from the previous 6 days (i.e., Tuesday, Monday, Sunday, Saturday, Friday, and Thursday) are used to calculate the 7-day median. If the 7-day median of total coliform organisms exceeds a most probable number (MPN) of 2.2 per 100 milliliters, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance.

- E. Mass Effluent Limitations.** The mass effluent limitations contained in the Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a are based on the permitted average dry weather flow and calculated as follows:

$$\text{Mass (lbs/day)} = \text{Flow (MGD)} \times \text{Concentration (mg/L)} \times 8.34 \text{ (conversion factor)}$$

If the effluent flow exceeds the permitted average dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, the effluent mass limitations contained in Final Effluent Limitations IV.A.1.a shall not apply. If the effluent flow is below the permitted average dry weather flow during wet-weather seasons, the effluent mass limitations do apply.

- F. Priority Pollutant Effluent Limitations.** Compliance with effluent limitations for priority pollutants shall be determined in accordance with Section 2.4.5 of the SIP, as follows:
1. Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation, if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the reporting level (RL).
 2. Dischargers shall be required to conduct a Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP) in accordance with section 2.4.5.1 of the SIP when there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and either:
 - a. A sample result is reported as detected, but not quantified (DNQ) and the effluent limitation is less than the RL; or
 - b. A sample result is reported as non-detect (ND) and the effluent limitation is less than the method detection limit (MDL).
 3. When determining compliance with an average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) and more than one sample result is available in a month, the discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:
 - a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
 - b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.
 4. If a sample result, or the arithmetic mean or median of multiple sample results, is below the RL, and there is evidence that the priority pollutant is present in the effluent above an effluent limitation and the discharger conducts a PMP (as described in section 2.4.5.1), the discharger shall not be deemed out of compliance.

G. 1-Month Averaging Period for Receiving Water Limitations (Section V.A.). The parameter (temperature or turbidity) sample values shall be collected as specified in Attachment E, Monitoring and Reporting Program. The sample values collected for the calendar month at RSW-001 shall be added together and the total divided by the number of sample values. The sample values collected for the calendar month at RSW-002 shall be added together and the total divided by the number of sample values. The difference between the two averages may then be calculated and used to satisfy the 1-month averaging period allowance, if applicable under Receiving Water Limitations section V.A.

ATTACHMENT A – DEFINITIONS

Arithmetic Mean (μ)

Also called the average, is the sum of measured values divided by the number of samples. For ambient water concentrations, the arithmetic mean is calculated as follows:

Arithmetic mean = $\mu = \Sigma x / n$ where: Σx is the sum of the measured ambient water concentrations, and n is the number of samples.

Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

Average Weekly Effluent Limitation (AWEL)

The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

Bioaccumulative

Those substances taken up by an organism from its surrounding medium through gill membranes, epithelial tissue, or from food and subsequently concentrated and retained in the body of the organism.

Carcinogenic

Pollutants are substances that are known to cause cancer in living organisms.

Coefficient of Variation (CV)

CV is a measure of the data variability and is calculated as the estimated standard deviation divided by the arithmetic mean of the observed values.

Daily Discharge

Daily Discharge is defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day (12:00 am through 11:59 pm) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., concentration).

The daily discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day or other 24-hour period defined as a day) or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of the day.

For composite sampling, if 1 day is defined as a 24-hour period other than a calendar day, the analytical result for the 24-hour period will be considered as the result for the calendar day in which the 24-hour period ends.

Detected, but Not Quantified (DNQ)

DNQ are those sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL. Sample results reported as DNQ are estimated concentrations.

Dilution Credit

Dilution Credit is the amount of dilution granted to a discharge in the calculation of a water quality-based effluent limitation, based on the allowance of a specified mixing zone. It is calculated from the dilution ratio or determined through conducting a mixing zone study or modeling of the discharge and receiving water.

Effluent Concentration Allowance (ECA)

ECA is a value derived from the water quality criterion/objective, dilution credit, and ambient background concentration that is used, in conjunction with the coefficient of variation for the effluent monitoring data, to calculate a long-term average (LTA) discharge concentration. The ECA has the same meaning as waste load allocation (WLA) as used in U.S. EPA guidance (Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, second printing, EPA/505/2-90-001).

Enclosed Bays

Enclosed Bays means indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays include, but are not limited to, Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drake's Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Estimated Chemical Concentration

The estimated chemical concentration that results from the confirmed detection of the substance by the analytical method below the ML value.

Estuaries

Estuaries means waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouths of streams that serve as areas of mixing for fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and seawater. Estuarine waters included, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, as defined in Water Code section 12220, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to the Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Mad, Eel, Noyo, Russian, Klamath, San Diego, and Otay rivers. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

Inland Surface Waters

All surface waters of the state that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation

The highest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous maximum limitation).

Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitation

The lowest allowable value for any single grab sample or aliquot (i.e., each grab sample or aliquot is independently compared to the instantaneous minimum limitation).

Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)

The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24-hour period). For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

Median

The middle measurement in a set of data. The median of a set of data is found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (either increasing or decreasing order). If the number of

measurements (n) is odd, then the median = $X_{(n+1)/2}$. If n is even, then the median = $(X_{n/2} + X_{(n/2)+1})/2$ (i.e., the midpoint between the n/2 and n/2+1).

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

MDL is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in 40 C.F.R. part 136, Attachment B, revised as of July 3, 1999.

Minimum Level (ML)

ML is the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed.

Mixing Zone

Mixing Zone is a limited volume of receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

Not Detected (ND)

Sample results which are less than the laboratory's MDL.

Ocean Waters

The territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board's California Ocean Plan.

Persistent Pollutants

Persistent pollutants are substances for which degradation or decomposition in the environment is nonexistent or very slow.

Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)

PMP means waste minimization and pollution prevention actions that include, but are not limited to, product substitution, waste stream recycling, alternative waste management methods, and education of the public and businesses. The goal of the PMP shall be to reduce all potential sources of a priority pollutant(s) through pollutant minimization (control) strategies, including pollution prevention measures as appropriate, to maintain the effluent concentration at or below the water quality-based effluent limitation. Pollution prevention measures may be particularly appropriate for persistent bioaccumulative priority pollutants where there is evidence that beneficial uses are being impacted. The Central Valley Water Board may consider cost effectiveness when establishing the requirements of a PMP. The completion and implementation of a Pollution Prevention Plan, if required pursuant to Water Code section 13263.3(d), shall be considered to fulfill the PMP requirements.

Pollution Prevention

Pollution Prevention means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes, but is not limited to, input change, operational improvement, production process change, and product reformulation (as defined in Water Code section 13263.3). Pollution prevention does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Central Valley Water Board.

Satellite Collection System

The portion, if any, of a sanitary sewer system owned or operated by a different public agency than the agency that owns and operates the wastewater treatment facility that a sanitary sewer system is tributary to.

Source of Drinking Water

Any water designated as municipal or domestic supply (MUN) in a Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan.

Standard Deviation (σ)

Standard Deviation is a measure of variability that is calculated as follows:

$$\sigma = (\sum[(x - \mu)^2]/(n - 1))^{0.5}$$

where:

x is the observed value;

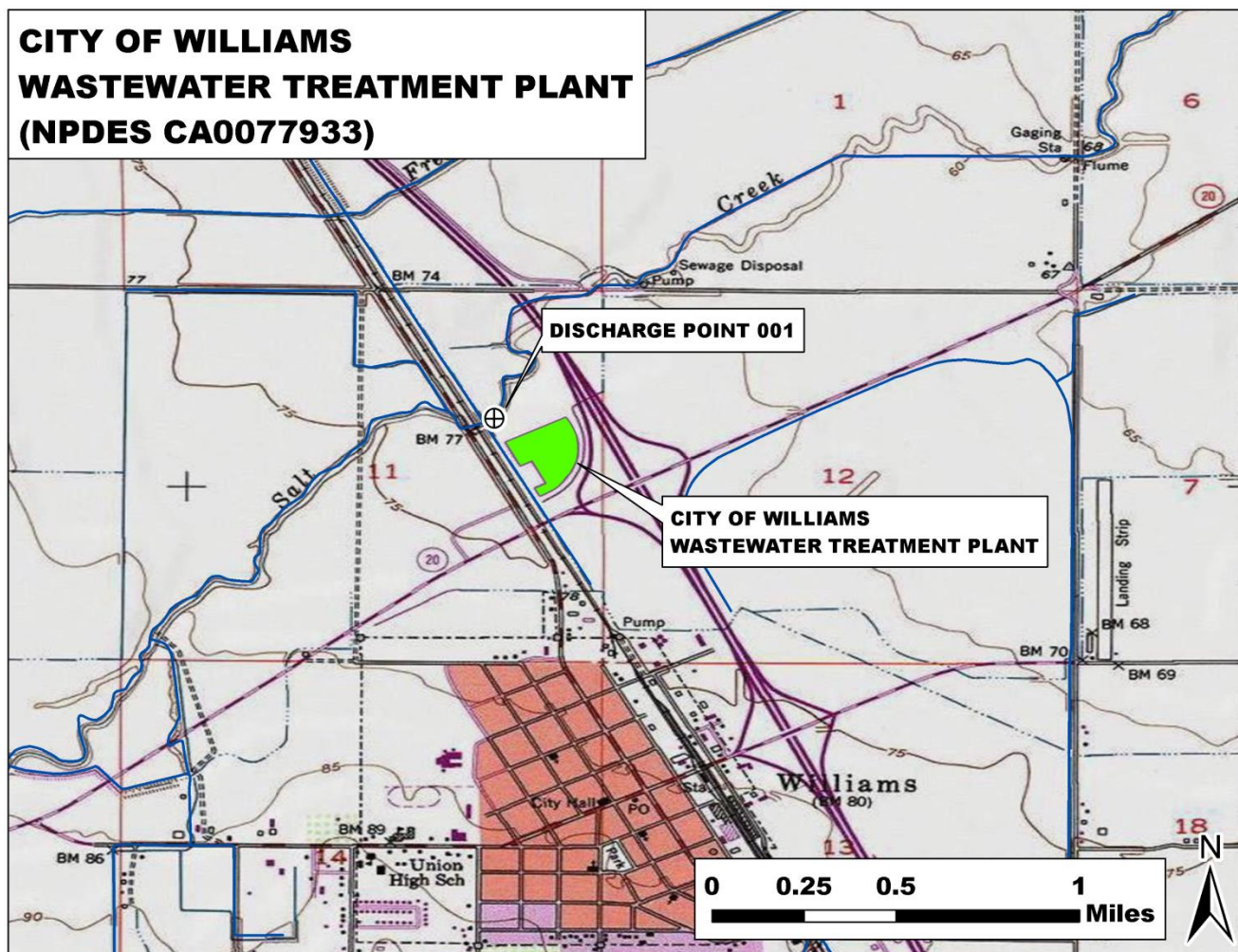
μ is the arithmetic mean of the observed values; and

n is the number of samples.

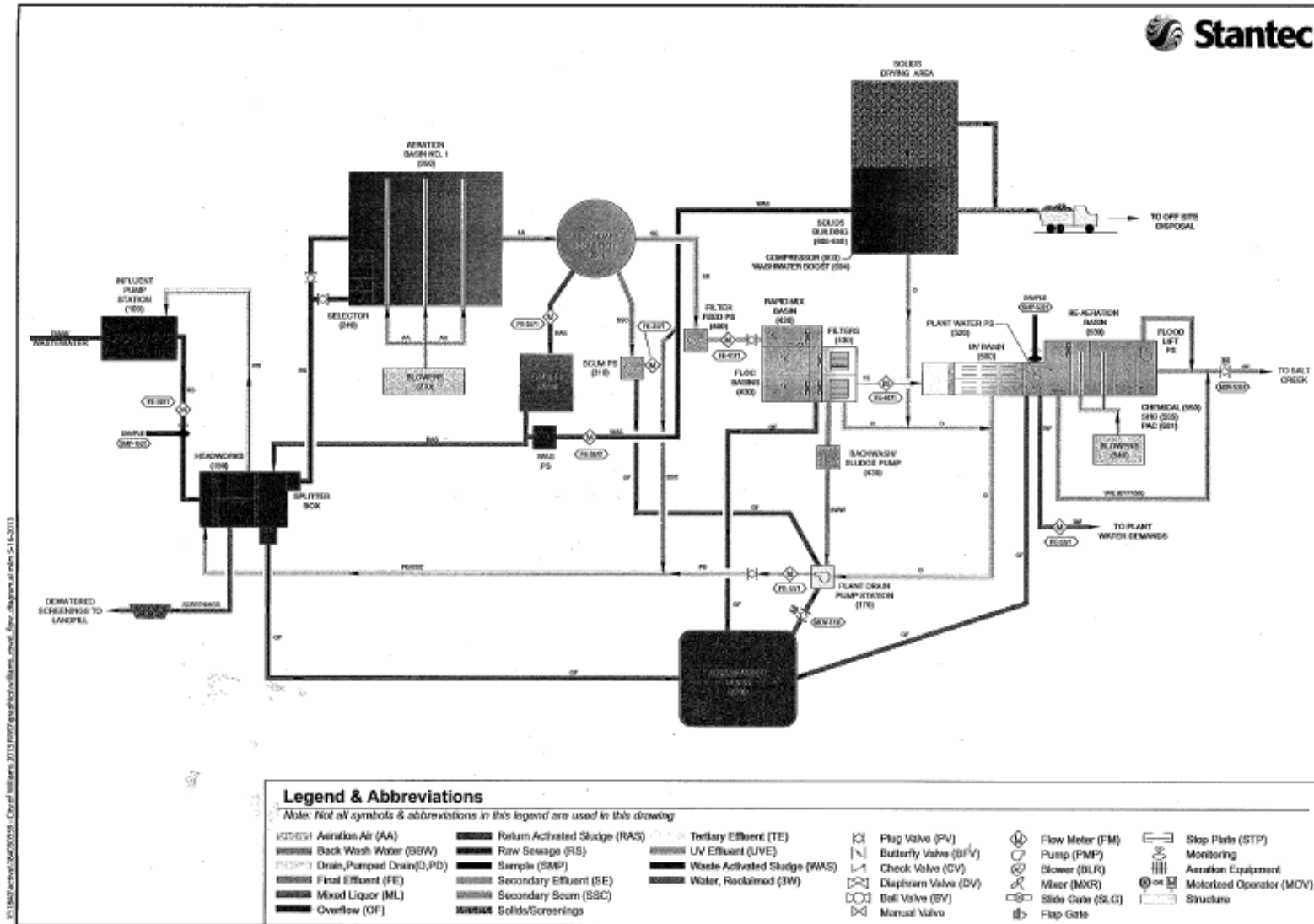
Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)

TRE is a study conducted in a step-wise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. The first steps of the TRE consist of the collection of data relevant to the toxicity, including additional toxicity testing, and an evaluation of facility operations and maintenance practices, and best management practices. A Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) may be required as part of the TRE, if appropriate. (A TIE is a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.)

ATTACHMENT B – MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC



City of Williams - Wastewater Treatment Plant
Process Flow Diagram

ATTACHMENT D – STANDARD PROVISIONS

I. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT COMPLIANCE

A. Duty to Comply

1. The Discharger must comply with all of the conditions of this Order. Any noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a).)
2. The Discharger shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Order has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(a)(1).)

B. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a Discharger in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(c).)

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(d).)

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(e).)

E. Property Rights

1. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(g).)
2. The issuance of this Order does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations. (40 C.F.R. § 122.5(c).)

F. Inspection and Entry

The Discharger shall allow the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, U.S. EPA, and/or their authorized representatives (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents, as may be required by law, to (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i); Wat. Code, § 13383):

1. Enter upon the Discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(1));

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(2));
3. Inspect and photograph, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(3)); and
4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Order compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA or the Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(i)(4).)

G. Bypass

1. Definitions
 - a. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).)
 - b. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities, which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).)
2. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Discharger may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause exceedances of effluent limitations, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3, I.G.4, and I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(2).)
3. Prohibition of bypass. Bypass is prohibited, and the Central Valley Water Board may take enforcement action against a Discharger for bypass, unless (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)):
 - a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A));
 - b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)); and
 - c. The Discharger submitted notice to the Central Valley Water Board as required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C).)
4. The Central Valley Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Central Valley Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed in Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.G.3 above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4)(ii).)
5. Notice
 - a. Anticipated bypass. If the Discharger knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit a notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).)

- b. Unanticipated bypass. The Discharger shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Standard Provisions - Reporting V.E below (24-hour notice). (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).)

H. Upset

Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Discharger. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).)

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.H.2 below are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(2).)
2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A Discharger who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)):
 - a. An upset occurred and that the Discharger can identify the cause(s) of the upset (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(i));
 - b. The permitted facility was, at the time, being properly operated (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(ii));
 - c. The Discharger submitted notice of the upset as required in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.E.2.b below (24-hour notice) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iii)); and
 - d. The Discharger complied with any remedial measures required under Standard Provisions – Permit Compliance I.C above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(3)(iv).)
3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Discharger seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(4).)

II. STANDARD PROVISIONS – PERMIT ACTION

A. General

This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Discharger for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Order condition. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(f).)

B. Duty to Reapply

If the Discharger wishes to continue an activity regulated by this Order after the expiration date of this Order, the Discharger must apply for and obtain a new permit. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(b).)

C. Transfers

This Order is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Central Valley Water Board. The Central Valley Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Order to change the name of the Discharger and incorporate such other

requirements as may be necessary under the CWA and the Water Code. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(3); § 122.61.)

III. STANDARD PROVISIONS – MONITORING

- A.** Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(1).)
- B.** Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures under 40 C.F.R. part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136 unless otherwise specified in 40 C.F.R. part 503 unless other test procedures have been specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(4); § 122.44(i)(1)(iv).)

IV. STANDARD PROVISIONS – RECORDS

- A.** Except for records of monitoring information required by this Order related to the Discharger's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 C.F.R. part 503), the Discharger shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer at any time. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(2).)
- B.** Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - 1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(i));
 - 2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(ii));
 - 3. The date(s) analyses were performed (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iii));
 - 4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(iv));
 - 5. The analytical techniques or methods used (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(v)); and
 - 6. The results of such analyses. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(j)(3)(vi).)
- C.** Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)):
 - 1. The name and address of any permit applicant or Discharger (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(1)); and
 - 2. Permit applications and attachments, permits and effluent data. (40 C.F.R. § 122.7(b)(2).)

V. STANDARD PROVISIONS – REPORTING

A. Duty to Provide Information

The Discharger shall furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA within a reasonable time, any information which the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order or to determine compliance with this Order. Upon request, the Discharger shall also furnish to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA copies of records required to be kept by this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(h); Wat. Code, § 13267.)

B. Signatory and Certification Requirements

1. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, and/or U.S. EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2, V.B.3, V.B.4, and V.B.5 below. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(k).)
2. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this provision, a principal executive officer of a federal agency includes: (i) the chief executive officer of the agency, or (ii) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of U.S. EPA). (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(a)(3).)
3. All reports required by this Order and other information requested by the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA shall be signed by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
 - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 above (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(1));
 - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(2)); and
 - c. The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(b)(3).)
4. If an authorization under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.3 above must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board and State Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative. (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(c).)
5. Any person signing a document under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.B.2 or V.B.3 above shall make the following certification:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” (40 C.F.R. § 122.22(d).)

C. Monitoring Reports

1. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E) in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4).)

2. Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the Central Valley Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(i).)
3. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. part 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 C.F.R. subchapters N or O, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Central Valley Water Board. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(ii).)
4. Calculations for all limitations, which require averaging of measurements, shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(4)(iii).)

D. Compliance Schedules

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this Order, shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(5).)

E. Twenty-Four Hour Reporting

1. The Discharger shall report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(i).)
2. The following shall be included as information that must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)):
 - a. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A).)
 - b. Any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B).)
3. The Central Valley Water Board may waive the above-required written report under this provision on a case-by-case basis if an oral report has been received within 24 hours. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(6)(iii).)

F. Planned Changes

The Discharger shall give notice to the Central Valley Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required under this provision only when (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)):

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in section 122.29(b) (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(i)); or
2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are not subject to effluent limitations in this Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(ii).)

3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Discharger's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(1)(iii).)

G. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Central Valley Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Order's requirements. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(2).)

H. Other Noncompliance

The Discharger shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Standard Provisions – Reporting V.C, V.D, and V.E above at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Standard Provision – Reporting V.E above. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(7).)

I. Other Information

When the Discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, or U.S. EPA, the Discharger shall promptly submit such facts or information. (40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)(8).)

VI. STANDARD PROVISIONS – ENFORCEMENT

- A. The Central Valley Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this permit under several provisions of the Water Code, including, but not limited to, sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS – NOTIFICATION LEVELS

A. Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)

All POTWs shall provide adequate notice to the Central Valley Water Board of the following (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)):

1. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to sections 301 or 306 of the CWA if it were directly discharging those pollutants (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(1)); and
2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of adoption of the Order. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(2).)
3. Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW as well as any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW. (40 C.F.R. § 122.42(b)(3).)

ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Contents

I.	General Monitoring Provisions	E-2
II.	Monitoring Locations	E-3
III.	Influent Monitoring Requirements.....	E-4
A.	Monitoring Location INF-001	E-4
IV.	Effluent Monitoring Requirements	E-4
A.	Monitoring Location EFF-001	E-4
V.	Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements	E-5
VI.	Land Discharge Monitoring Requirements	E-8
A.	Monitoring Location PND-001	E-8
VII.	Recycling Monitoring Requirements – Not Applicable	E-8
VIII.	Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements	E-8
A.	Surface Water Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002.....	E-8
B.	Groundwater Monitoring Locations RGW-001, RGW-002, and RGW-003.....	E-9
IX.	Other Monitoring Requirements	E-10
A.	Biosolids	E-10
B.	Municipal Water Supply	E-10
C.	Filtration System and Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System.....	E-10
D.	Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization	E-11
X.	Reporting Requirements	E-15
A.	General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements	E-15
B.	Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs)	E-16
C.	Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) – Not Applicable	E-18
D.	Other Reports	E-18

Tables

Table E-1.	Monitoring Station Locations	E-3
Table E-2.	Influent Monitoring	E-4
Table E-3.	Effluent Monitoring.....	E-4
Table E-4.	Chronic Toxicity Testing Dilution Series for TRE Investigation.....	E-7
Table E-5.	Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements.....	E-8
Table E-6.	Groundwater Monitoring Requirements	E-9
Table E-7.	Municipal Water Supply Monitoring Requirements.....	E-10
Table E-8.	Filtration System and UV Disinfection System Monitoring Requirements.....	E-11
Table E-9.	Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization Monitoring	E-11
Table E-10.	Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule.....	E-16

ATTACHMENT E – MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MRP)

The Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R. § 122.48) requires that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 also authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements that implement federal and California regulations.

I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS

- A.** Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring locations specified below and, unless otherwise specified, before the monitored flow joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring locations shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Central Valley Water Board.
- B.** Effluent samples shall be taken downstream of the last addition of wastes to the treatment or discharge works where a representative sample may be obtained prior to mixing with the receiving waters. Samples shall be collected at such a point and in such a manner to ensure a representative sample of the discharge.
- C.** Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses of any material required by this Order shall be conducted by a laboratory certified for such analyses by the Department of Public Health (DPH). Laboratories that perform sample analyses must be identified in all monitoring reports submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. In the event a certified laboratory is not available to the Discharger for any onsite field measurements such as pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine, such analyses performed by a noncertified laboratory will be accepted provided a Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program is instituted by the laboratory. A manual containing the steps followed in this program for any onsite field measurements such as pH, DO, turbidity, temperature, and residual chlorine must be kept onsite in the treatment facility laboratory and shall be available for inspection by Central Valley Water Board staff. The Discharger must demonstrate sufficient capability (qualified and trained employees, properly calibrated and maintained field instruments, etc.) to adequately perform these field measurements. The Quality Assurance-Quality Control Program must conform to USEPA guidelines or to procedures approved by the Central Valley Water Board.
- D.** Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. All monitoring instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill the prescribed monitoring program shall be properly maintained and calibrated as necessary, at least yearly, to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated at least once per year to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.
- E.** Monitoring results, including noncompliance, shall be reported at intervals and in a manner specified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.
- F.** Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be certified by DPH, in accordance with the provision of Water Code section 13176, and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports.
- G.** In accordance with Clean Water Act section 308, the Discharger shall provide results of the Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study or the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study annually to the State Water Resources Control Board at the following address:

State Water Board Quality Assurance Program Officer
Office of Information Management and Analysis
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

- H. The Discharger shall file with the Central Valley Water Board technical reports on self-monitoring performed according to the detailed specifications contained in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.
- I. The results of all monitoring required by this Order shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board, and shall be submitted in such a format as to allow direct comparison with the limitations and requirements of this Order. Unless otherwise specified, discharge flows shall be reported in terms of the monthly average and the daily maximum discharge flows.

II. MONITORING LOCATIONS

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitations, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

Table E-1. Monitoring Station Locations

Discharge Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	INF-001	A location where a representative sample of the influent into the Facility can be collected prior to entering the treatment process.
001	EFF-001	Downstream from the last connection through which wastes can be admitted to the outfall before being discharged to Salt Creek. Latitude: 39° 10' 11" N, Longitude: 122° 9' 13" W
--	PND-001	Unlined emergency storage basins.
--	RSW-001	50 feet upstream of Discharge Point 001 in Salt Creek.
--	RSW-002	200 feet downstream of Discharge Point 001 in Salt Creek.
--	RGW-001	Groundwater monitoring well (identified as MW-1 in the Discharger's groundwater monitoring reports).
--	RGW-002	Groundwater monitoring well (identified as MW-2 in the Discharger's groundwater monitoring reports).
--	RGW-003	Groundwater monitoring well (identified as MW-3 in the Discharger's groundwater monitoring reports).
--	BIO-001	A location where a representative sample of the biosolids can be obtained.
--	SPL-001	A location where a representative sample of the municipal water supply can be obtained.
--	UVS-001	A location where a representative sample of wastewater can be collected immediately upstream of the ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection system.
--	UVS-002	A location, <u>per UV channel</u> where a representative sample of wastewater can be collected immediately downstream of the UV disinfection system.
--	FIL-001	Monitoring of the filter effluent to be measured immediately downstream of the filters prior to the UV disinfection system.

The North latitude and West longitude information in Table 1 are approximate for administrative purposes.

III. INFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location INF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor influent to the Facility at Monitoring Location INF-001 as follows:

Table E-2. Influent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite ¹	2/Month	²
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite ¹	2/Month	²
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month	²

¹ 24-hour flow proportional composite.

² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136; or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

IV. EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location EFF-001

1. The Discharger shall monitor tertiary treated effluent at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as follows. If more than one analytical test method is listed for a given parameter, the Discharger must select from the listed methods and corresponding Minimum Level:

Table E-3. Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Flow	MGD	Meter	Continuous	--
Conventional Pollutants				
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	24-hr Composite ¹	1/Week	²
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
pH	standard units	Grab	2/Week ^{3,4}	²
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	24-hr Composite ¹	1/Week	²
	lbs/day	Calculate	1/Week	--
Priority Pollutants				
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/Year	^{2,8}
Priority Pollutants and Other Constituents of Concern	See Section IX.D	See Section IX.D	See Section IX.D	^{2,5}
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	Grab	1/week ⁷	²

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	2/Week ^{3,8}	2
	lbs/day	Calculate	2/Week	--
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	Grab	1/Day ⁹	2,9
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	Grab	1/Quarter ¹⁰	2
Diazinon	µg/L	Grab	1/Quarter ¹⁰	2
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Month	2
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	2
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month ¹¹	2
Nitrite Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month ¹¹	2
Temperature	°C	Grab	2/Week ^{3,4}	2
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	2

¹ 24-hour flow proportional composite.

² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

³ pH and temperature shall be recorded at the time of ammonia sample collection.

⁴ A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

⁵ For priority pollutant constituents the reporting level shall be consistent with Sections 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (See Attachment E, section IX.D).

⁶ Unfiltered methyl mercury and total mercury samples shall be taken using clean hands/dirty hands procedures, as described in U.S. EPA method 1669: Sampling Ambient Water for Trace Metals at EPA Water Quality Criteria Levels, for collection of equipment blanks (section 9.4.4.2), and shall be analyzed by U.S. EPA method 1630/1631 (Revision E) with a reporting level of 0.02 ng/L for methyl mercury and 0.5 ng/L for total mercury.

⁷ Monitoring for aluminum is only required when aluminum-based coagulants are used in the treatment process. When aluminum-based coagulants are not used, the Discharger will so state in the monthly self-monitoring report.

⁸ Concurrent with whole effluent toxicity monitoring.

⁹ Total chlorine residual must be monitored with a method sensitive to and accurate at the permitted level of 0.01 mg/L. Total chlorine residual monitoring is only required when chlorine or chlorine-containing products are used in the treatment process. When chlorine or chlorine-containing products are not in use in the treatment process, the Discharger will so state in the monthly self-monitoring report.

¹⁰ Monitoring for diazinon and chlorpyrifos shall be conducted quarterly during the first year of the permit term. If diazinon and chlorpyrifos are not detected above the applicable RLs (0.020 µg/L for diazinon and 0.010 µg/L for chlorpyrifos) during the first year, the monitoring frequency shall be reduced to annually.

¹¹ Monitoring for nitrite and nitrate shall be conducted concurrently.

V. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Acute Toxicity Testing. The Discharger shall conduct acute toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing acute toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following acute toxicity testing requirements:

1. Monitoring Frequency – The Discharger shall perform semi-annual acute toxicity testing, concurrent with effluent ammonia sampling.
 2. Sample Types – The Discharger may use flow-through or static renewal testing. For static renewal testing, the samples shall be flow proportional 24-hour composites and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001.
 3. Test Species – Test species shall be fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).
 4. Methods – The acute toxicity testing samples shall be analyzed using EPA-821-R-02-012, Fifth Edition. Temperature, total residual chlorine, and pH shall be recorded at the time of sample collection. No pH adjustment may be made unless approved by the Executive Officer.
 5. Test Failure – If an acute toxicity test does not meet all test acceptability criteria, as specified in the test method, the Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, not to exceed 7 days following notification of test failure.
- B. Chronic Toxicity Testing.** The Discharger shall conduct three species chronic toxicity testing to determine whether the effluent is contributing chronic toxicity to the receiving water. The Discharger shall meet the following chronic toxicity testing requirements:
1. Monitoring Frequency – The Discharger shall perform semi-annual three species chronic toxicity testing.
 2. Sample Types – Effluent samples shall be flow proportional 24-hour composites and shall be representative of the volume and quality of the discharge. The effluent samples shall be taken at Monitoring Location EFF-001. The receiving water control shall be a grab sample obtained from Monitoring Location RSW-001, as identified in this Monitoring and Reporting Program.
 3. Sample Volumes – Adequate sample volumes shall be collected to provide renewal water to complete the test in the event that the discharge is intermittent.
 4. Test Species – Chronic toxicity testing measures sublethal (e.g., reduced growth, reproduction) and/or lethal effects to test organisms exposed to an effluent compared to that of the control organisms. The Discharger shall conduct chronic toxicity tests with:
 - The cladoceran, water flea, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (survival and reproduction test);
 - The fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (larval survival and growth test); and
 - The green alga, *Selenastrum capricornutum* (growth test).
 5. Methods – The presence of chronic toxicity shall be estimated as specified in *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002.
 6. Reference Toxicant – As required by the SIP, all chronic toxicity tests shall be conducted with concurrent testing with a reference toxicant and shall be reported with the chronic toxicity test results.
 7. Dilutions – For routine and accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, it is not necessary to perform the test using a dilution series. The test may be performed using 100% effluent and one control. For TRE monitoring, the chronic toxicity testing shall be performed using the dilution series identified in Table E-4, below, unless an alternative dilution series is detailed in the submitted TRE Action Plan. A receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent.

Table E-4. Chronic Toxicity Testing Dilution Series for TRE Investigation

Sample	Dilutions ¹ (%)					Control
	100	75	50	25	12.5	
% Effluent	100	75	50	25	12.5	0
% Control Water	0	25	50	75	87.5	100

¹ Receiving water control or laboratory water control may be used as the diluent

8. **Test Failure** – The Discharger must re-sample and re-test as soon as possible, but no later than fourteen (14) days after receiving notification of a test failure. A test failure is defined as follows:
 - a. The reference toxicant test or the effluent test does not meet all test acceptability criteria as specified in the *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA/821-R-02-013, October 2002 (Method Manual), and its subsequent amendments or revisions; or
 - b. The percent minimum significant difference (PMSD) measured for the test exceeds the upper PMSD bound variability criterion in Table 6 on page 52 of the Method Manual. (A retest is only required in this case if the test results do not exceed the monitoring trigger specified in the Special Provision at section VI. 2.a.iii. of the Order.)
- C. WET Testing Notification Requirements.** The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board within 24-hours after the receipt of test results exceeding the monitoring trigger during regular or accelerated monitoring, or an exceedance of the acute toxicity effluent limitation.
- D. WET Testing Reporting Requirements.** All toxicity test reports shall include the contracting laboratory's complete report provided to the Discharger and shall be in accordance with the appropriate "Report Preparation and Test Review" sections of the method manuals. At a minimum, whole effluent toxicity monitoring shall be reported as follows:
 1. **Chronic WET Reporting.** Regular chronic toxicity monitoring results shall be reported to the Central Valley Water Board within 30 days following completion of the test, and shall contain, at minimum:
 - a. The results expressed in T_{Uc}, measured as 100/NOEC, and also measured as 100/LC50, 100/EC25, 100/IC25, and 100/IC50, as appropriate.
 - b. The statistical methods used to calculate endpoints;
 - c. The statistical output page, which includes the calculation of the percent minimum significant difference (PMSD);
 - d. The dates of sample collection and initiation of each toxicity test; and
 - e. The results compared to the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger.

Additionally, the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports shall contain an updated chronology of chronic toxicity test results expressed in T_{Uc}, and organized by test species, type of test (survival, growth or reproduction), and monitoring frequency, i.e., either quarterly, monthly, accelerated, or Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE).
 2. **Acute WET Reporting.** Acute toxicity test results shall be submitted with the monthly discharger self-monitoring reports and reported as percent survival.

3. **TRE Reporting.** Reports for TREs shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule contained in the Discharger's approved TRE Workplan, or as amended by the Discharger's TRE Action Plan.
4. **Quality Assurance (QA).** The Discharger must provide the following information for QA purposes:
 - a. Results of the applicable reference toxicant data with the statistical output page giving the species, NOEC, LOEC, type of toxicant, dilution water used, concentrations used, PMSD, and dates tested.
 - b. The reference toxicant control charts for each endpoint, which include summaries of reference toxicant tests performed by the contracting laboratory.
 - c. Any information on deviations or problems encountered and how they were dealt with.

VI. LAND DISCHARGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Monitoring Location PND-001

1. The Discharger shall keep a log related to the use of the unlined emergency basins. In particular, the Discharger shall record the following when any type of wastewater is directed to the unlined basins:
 - a. The date(s) when the wastewater is directed to the basins;
 - b. The type(s) of wastewater (e.g., untreated due to plant upset, tertiary treated) directed to the basins;
 - c. The total volume of wastewater directed to the basin (may be estimated);
 - d. The duration of time wastewater is collected in the basin prior to redirection back to the wastewater treatment plant;
 - e. The date when all wastewater in the basin has been redirected to the wastewater treatment plant; and
 - f. The freeboard available in the basin.
2. The basin log shall be submitted with the monthly SMRs required in section X.B of this MRP.

VII. RECYCLING MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – NOT APPLICABLE

VIII. RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Surface Water Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002

1. The Discharger shall monitor Salt Creek at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002 as follows:

Table E-5. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Conventional Pollutants				
Fecal Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Week	⁴
pH	standard units	Grab ²	1/Week	¹

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Priority Pollutants				
Priority Pollutants and Other Constituents of Concern	See Section IX.D	See Section IX.D	See Section IX.D ³	1,4
Non-Conventional Pollutants				
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab ²	1/Week	1
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab ²	1/Week	1
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃)	mg/L	Grab	1/Month	1
Temperature	°F(°C)	Grab ²	1/Week	1
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	1/Week	1

¹ Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

² A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a USEPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring required by this Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility.

³ Monitoring required at Monitoring Location RSW-001 only.

⁴ For priority pollutant constituents the reporting level shall be consistent with Sections 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 of the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (See Attachment E, section IX.D).

2. In conducting the receiving water sampling, a log shall be kept of the receiving water conditions throughout the reach bounded by Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002. Attention shall be given to the presence or absence of:
 - a. Floating or suspended matter;
 - b. Discoloration;
 - c. Bottom deposits;
 - d. Aquatic life;
 - e. Visible films, sheens, or coatings;
 - f. Fungi, slimes, or objectionable growths;
 - g. Potential nuisance conditions.

Notes on the receiving water conditions shall be summarized in the monitoring report.

B. Groundwater Monitoring Locations RGW-001, RGW-002, and RGW-003

1. Prior to sampling, the groundwater elevations shall be measured and the wells shall be purged of at least three well volumes until temperature, pH, and electrical conductivity have stabilized. Depth to groundwater shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 feet. Groundwater monitoring at RGW-001, RGW-002, and RGW-003, and any new groundwater monitoring wells shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Table E-6. Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Depth to Groundwater	±0.01 feet	Measurement	1/Quarter	--

Groundwater Elevation ¹	±0.01 feet	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Gradient	feet/feet	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Gradient Direction	degrees	Calculated	1/Quarter	--
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Quarter	²
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	²
pH	standard units	Grab	1/Quarter	²
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	1/Quarter	²
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	1/Quarter	²

¹ Groundwater elevation shall be determined based on depth-to-water measurements from a surveyed measuring point elevation on the well. The groundwater elevation shall be used to calculate the direction and gradient of groundwater flow, which must be reported.

² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

IX. OTHER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

A. Biosolids

1. Monitoring Location BIO-001

- A composite sample of sludge shall be collected annually at Monitoring Location BIO-001 in accordance with USEPA's *POTW Sludge Sampling and Analysis Guidance Document*, August 1989, and tested for the metals listed in Title 22.
- Biosolids monitoring shall be conducted using the methods in *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods* (EPA publication SW-846), as required in 40 CFR 503.8(b)(4). All results must be reported on a 100% dry weight basis. Records of all analyses must state on each page of the laboratory report whether the results are expressed in "100% dry weight" or "as is."
- Sampling records shall be retained for a minimum of **5 years**. A log shall be maintained of sludge quantities generated and of handling and disposal activities. The frequency of entries is discretionary; however, the log must be complete enough to serve as a basis for part of the annual report.

B. Municipal Water Supply

1. Monitoring Location SPL-001

The Discharger shall monitor the municipal water supply at Monitoring Location SPL-001 as follows.

Table E-7. Municipal Water Supply Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Required Analytical Test Method
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C ¹	µmhos/cm	Grab	1/Quarter	²

¹ If the water supply is from more than one source, the electrical conductivity shall be reported as a weighted average and include copies of supporting calculations.

² Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 CFR Part 136 or by methods approved by the Central Valley Water Board or the State Water Board.

C. Filtration System and Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System

1. Monitoring Locations FIL-001, UVS-001, and UVS-002

The Discharger shall monitor the filtration system and UV disinfection system at Monitoring Locations FIL-001, UVS-001, and UVS-002 as follows.

Table E-8. Filtration System and UV Disinfection System Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Monitoring Location	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Flow	MGD	Meter	UVS/FIL-001	Continuous ¹
Turbidity	NTU	Meter	FIL-001	Continuous ^{1,2}
Number of UV banks in operation	Number	Observation	N/A	Continuous ¹
UV Transmittance	Percent (%)	Meter	UVS-001	Continuous ¹
UV Dose ³	mJ/cm ²	Calculated	UVS-001/002	Continuous ¹
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100mL	Grab	UVS-002 ⁴	3/Week

¹ For continuous analyzers, the Discharger shall report documented routine meter maintenance activities including date, time of day, and duration, in which the analyzer(s) is not in operation. If analyzer(s) fail to provide continuous monitoring for more than two hours and influent and/or effluent from the disinfection process is not diverted for retreatment, the Discharger shall obtain and report hourly manual and/or grab sample results. The Discharger shall not decrease power settings or reduce the number of UV lamp banks in operation while the continuous analyzers are out of service and water is being disinfected.

² Report daily average and maximum turbidity.

³ Report daily minimum hourly UV dose and daily average UV dose. The minimum hourly average dose shall consist of lowest hourly average dose provided in any channel that had at least one bank of lamps operating during the hour interval. For channels that did not operate for the entire hour interval, the dose will be averaged based on the actual operation time.

⁴ Collection of total coliform organism samples from the end of the lead UV channel as water cascades down into the collection trough is allowed. The Discharger shall identify the lead channel at the time of sample collection.

D. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization in 2017.

- Quarterly Monitoring.** Priority pollutant samples shall be collected quarterly from the effluent (Monitoring Location EFF-001) and 2X/year from the upstream receiving water (Monitoring Location RSW-001) and analyzed for the constituents listed in Table E-9, below. Quarterly monitoring shall be conducted during the third year (four consecutive samples, evenly distributed throughout the year). Samples collected 2X/year shall also be conducted during the third year (separated by 6 months, evenly distributed throughout the year). The results of such monitoring shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board with the monthly self-monitoring reports. Each individual monitoring event shall provide representative sample results for the effluent and upstream receiving water.
- Concurrent Sampling.** Effluent and receiving water sampling shall be performed at approximately the same time, on the same date.
- Sample type.** All receiving water samples shall be taken as grab samples. Effluent samples shall be taken as described in Table E-9, below.

Table E-9. Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level ¹
1,1-Dichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	1
1,1-Dichloroethene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	2
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level ¹
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
1,2-Dichloroethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	µg/L	Grab	
1,2-Dichloropropane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
1,3-Dichloropropene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
Acrolein	µg/L	Grab	2
Acrylonitrile	µg/L	Grab	2
Benzene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Bromoform	µg/L	Grab	2
Bromomethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Carbon tetrachloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Chlorobenzene (mono chlorobenzene)	µg/L	Grab	2
Chloroethane	µg/L	Grab	2
2- Chloroethyl vinyl ether	µg/L	Grab	1
Chloroform	µg/L	Grab	2
Chloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Dichloromethane	µg/L	Grab	2
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	Grab	2
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachlorobutadiene	µg/L	Grab	1
Hexachloroethane	µg/L	Grab	1
Naphthalene	µg/L	Grab	10
Tetrachloroethene	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Toluene	µg/L	Grab	2
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	µg/L	Grab	1
Trichloroethene	µg/L	Grab	2
Vinyl chloride	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Methyl-tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	µg/L	Grab	
Trichlorofluoromethane	µg/L	Grab	
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane	µg/L	Grab	
Styrene	µg/L	Grab	
Xylenes	µg/L	Grab	
1,2-Benzanthracene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
2-Chlorophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
2,4-Dichlorophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2
2,4-Dinitrophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
2,6-Dinitrotoluene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
2-Nitrophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
2-Chloronaphthalene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level ¹
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
4,6-Dinitro-2-methylphenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
4-Nitrophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Acenaphthene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
Acenaphthylene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Anthracene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Benzidine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Benzo(a)pyrene (3,4-Benzopyrene)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2
Bis(2-chloroethoxy) methane	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl) ether	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl) ether	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate ³	µg/L	Grab	5 ⁴
Butyl benzyl phthalate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Chrysene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Di-n-butylphthalate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Di-n-octylphthalate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Dibenzo(a,h)-anthracene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.1
Diethyl phthalate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Dimethyl phthalate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Fluoranthene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Fluorene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.05
Isophorone	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Nitrobenzene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Pentachlorophenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
Phenanthrene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Phenol	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
Pyrene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Aluminum	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Antimony	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Arsenic	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Asbestos	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Barium	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Beryllium	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2
Cadmium	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
Chromium (III)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	50
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	10
Copper	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Cyanide	µg/L	Grab	5
Fluoride	µg/L	Grab	--
Iron	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Lead	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level ¹
Mercury ³	µg/L	Grab	0.5
Manganese	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Molybdenum	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Nickel	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	20
Selenium	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	5
Silver	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	2
Thallium	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	1
Tributyltin	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Zinc	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	20
4,4'-DDD	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.05
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.05
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
alpha-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.02
alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (BHC)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Alachlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Aldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.005
beta-Endosulfan	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.005
Chlordane	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.1
delta-Hexachlorocyclohexane	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.005
Dieldrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Endosulfan sulfate	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.05
Endrin	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Endrin Aldehyde	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Heptachlor	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.01
Lindane (gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.02
PCB-1016	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1221	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1232	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1242	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1248	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1254	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
PCB-1260	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
Toxaphene	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.5
Atrazine	µg/L	Grab	--
Bentazon	µg/L	Grab	--
Carbofuran	µg/L	Grab	--
2,4-D	µg/L	Grab	--
Dalapon	µg/L	Grab	--
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	µg/L	Grab	--
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	µg/L	Grab	--
Dinoseb	µg/L	Grab	--
Diquat	µg/L	Grab	--
Endothal	µg/L	Grab	--
Ethylene Dibromide	µg/L	Grab	--
Methoxychlor	µg/L	Grab	--
Molinate (Ordram)	µg/L	Grab	--
Oxamyl	µg/L	Grab	--
Picloram	µg/L	Grab	--

Parameter	Units	Effluent Sample Type	Maximum Reporting Level ¹
Simazine (Princep)	µg/L	Grab	--
Thiobencarb	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	µg/L	Grab	--
Diazinon ³	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.015
Chlorpyrifos ³	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	0.014
Boron	µg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Chloride	mg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Flow	MGD	--	--
Hardness (as CaCO ₃) ³	mg/L	Grab	--
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	µg/L	Grab	--
Mercury, Methyl	ng/L	Grab	0.06
Nitrate (as N) ³	mg/L	Grab	2.0
Nitrite (as N) ³	mg/L	Grab	0.4
pH ³	standard units	Grab	0.1
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	mg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Specific conductance (EC) ³	µmhos/cm	Grab	--
Sulfate	mg/L	24-hr Composite ²	500
Sulfide (as S)	mg/L	Grab	--
Sulfite (as SO ₃)	mg/L	24-hr Composite ²	--
Temperature ³	°C	Grab	--
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) ³	mg/L	Grab	--

¹ The reporting levels required in this table for priority pollutant constituents are established based on Section 2.4.2 and Appendix 4 of the SIP.

² 24-hour flow proportional composite.

³ The Discharger is not required to conduct effluent monitoring for constituents that have already been sampled in a given quarter, as required in Table E-3, except for hardness, pH, and temperature, which shall be conducted concurrently with the effluent and receiving water sampling.

⁴ In order to verify if bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is truly present, the Discharger shall take steps to assure that sample containers, sampling apparatus, and analytical equipment are not sources of the detected contaminant.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. General Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

1. The Discharger shall comply with all Standard Provisions (Attachment D) related to monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping.
2. Upon written request of the Central Valley Water Board, the Discharger shall submit a summary monitoring report. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year(s).
3. **Compliance Time Schedules.** For compliance time schedules included in the Order, the Discharger shall submit to the Central Valley Water Board, on or before each compliance due date, the specified document or a written report detailing compliance or noncompliance with the specific date and task. If noncompliance is reported, the Discharger shall state the reasons for noncompliance and include an estimate of the date when the Discharger will be in compliance. The Discharger shall notify the Central Valley Water Board by letter when it returns to compliance with the compliance time schedule.

4. The Discharger shall report to the Central Valley Water Board any toxic chemical release data it reports to the State Emergency Response Commission within 15 days of reporting the data to the Commission pursuant to section 313 of the "*Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act*" of 1986.

B. Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs)

1. The Discharger shall electronically submit SMRs using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program Web site (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). The CIWQS Web site will provide additional information for SMR submittal in the event there will be a planned service interruption for electronic submittal.
2. The Discharger shall report in the SMR the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP under sections III through IX. The Discharger shall submit monthly SMRs including the results of all required monitoring using U.S. EPA-approved test methods or other test methods specified in this Order. SMRs are to include all new monitoring results obtained since the last SMR was submitted. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.
3. Monitoring periods and reporting for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

Table E-10. Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule

Sampling Frequency	Monitoring Period Begins On...	Monitoring Period	SMR Due Date
Continuous	Permit effective date	All	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Day	Permit effective date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Week	Permit effective date	Sunday through Saturday	Submit with monthly SMR
1/Month	Permit effective date	1 st day of calendar month through last day of calendar month	<u>First day of second calendar month following month of sampling</u> Submit with monthly SMR
1/Quarter	Permit effective date	1 January through 31 March 1 April through 30 June 1 July through 30 September 1 October through 31 December	1 May 1 August 1 November 1 February of the following year
2/Year	Permit effective date	1 January through 30 June 1 July through 31 December	1 August 1 February of the following year
1/Year	Permit effective date	1 January through 31 December	1 February of the following year

4. **Reporting Protocols.** The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable Reporting Level (RL) and the current laboratory's Method Detection Limit (MDL), as determined by the procedure in 40 C.F.R. part 136.

The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

- a. Sample results greater than or equal to the RL shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).

- b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ. The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (\pm a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

- c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.
 - d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the Minimum Level (ML) value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.
5. **Multiple Sample Data.** When determining compliance with an AMEL, AWEL, or MDEL for priority pollutants and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of "Detected, but Not Quantified" (DNQ) or "Not Detected" (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:
- a. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.
 - b. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.
6. The Discharger shall submit SMRs in accordance with the following requirements:
- a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the facility is operating in compliance with interim and/or final effluent limitations. The Discharger is not required to duplicate the submittal of data that is entered in a tabular format within CIWQS. When electronic submittal of data is required and CIWQS does not provide for entry into a tabular format within the system, the Discharger shall electronically submit the data in a tabular format as an attachment.
 - b. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify violations of the WDR's; discuss corrective actions taken or planned; and the proposed time schedule for corrective actions. Identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation.
7. The Discharger shall submit in the SMRs calculations and reports in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. **Average Dry Weather Flow.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the average dry weather flow for the effluent. The average dry weather flow shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.C and reported in the December SMR.
- b. **Calendar Annual Average Limitations.** For constituents with effluent limitations specified as “calendar annual average” (electrical conductivity) the Discharger shall report the calendar annual average in the December SMR. The annual average shall be calculated as the average of the samples gathered for the calendar year.
- c. **Mass Loading Limitations.** For BOD₅, TSS, and ammonia, the Discharger shall calculate and report the mass loading (lbs/day) in the SMRs. The mass loading shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Mass Loading (lbs/day)} = \text{Flow (MGD)} \times \text{Concentration (mg/L)} \times 8.34$$

When calculating daily mass loading, the daily average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For weekly average mass loading, the weekly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used. For monthly average mass loading, the monthly average flow and constituent concentration shall be used.

- d. **Removal Efficiency (BOD₅ and TSS).** The Discharger shall calculate and report the percent removal of BOD₅ and TSS in the SMRs. The percent removal shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.A. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.
- e. **Total Coliform Organisms Effluent Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the 7-day median of total coliform organisms for the effluent. The 7-day median of total coliform organisms shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.D of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.
- f. **Dissolved Oxygen Receiving Water Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report monthly in the self-monitoring report: i) the dissolved oxygen concentration, ii) the percent of saturation in the main water mass, and iii) the 95th percentile dissolved oxygen concentration.
- g. **Turbidity Receiving Water Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the turbidity increase in the receiving water applicable to the natural turbidity condition specified in Section V.A.17.~~a-e~~ of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.
- h. **Temperature Receiving Water Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the temperature increase in the receiving water based on the difference in temperature at Monitoring Location RSW-001 and RSW-002 as specified in section V.A.15.
- i. **Total Calendar Annual Mass Loading Mercury Effluent Limitations.** The Discharger shall calculate and report the total calendar annual mercury mass loading for the effluent in the December SMR. The total calendar year annual mass loading shall be calculated as specified in Section VII.B. of the Limitations and Discharge Requirements.

C. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) – Not Applicable

D. Other Reports

1. The Discharger shall report the results of any special studies, acute and chronic toxicity testing, TRE/TIE, PMP, and Pollution Prevention Plan required by Special Provisions – VI.C. The Discharger shall submit reports with the first monthly SMR scheduled to be submitted on or immediately following the report due date.

2. Within 60 days of permit adoption, the Discharger shall submit a report outlining reporting levels (RLs), method detection limits, and analytical methods for approval. The Discharger shall comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements for CTR constituents as outlined in section 2.3 and 2.4 of the SIP. The maximum required reporting levels for priority pollutant constituents shall be based on the Minimum Levels (MLs) contained in Appendix 4 of the SIP, determined in accordance with Section 2.4.2 and Section 2.4.3 of the SIP. In accordance with Section 2.4.2 of the SIP, when there is more than one ML value for a given substance, the Central Valley Water Board shall include as RLs, in the permit, all ML values, and their associated analytical methods, listed in Appendix 4 that are below the calculated effluent limitation. The Discharger may select any one of those cited analytical methods for compliance determination. If no ML value is below the effluent limitation, then the Central Valley Water Board shall select as the RL, the lowest ML value, and its associated analytical method, listed in Appendix 4 for inclusion in the permit. Attachment E, section IX.D provides required maximum reporting levels in accordance with the SIP.
3. **Annual Operations Report.** By 30 January of each year, the Discharger shall submit a written report to the Executive Officer containing the following:
 - a. The names, certificate grades, and general responsibilities of all persons employed at the Facility.
 - b. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the plant for emergency and routine situations.
 - c. A statement certifying when the flow meter(s) and other monitoring instruments and devices were last calibrated, including identification of who performed the calibration.
 - d. A statement certifying whether the current operation and maintenance manual, and contingency plan, reflect the wastewater treatment plant as currently constructed and operated, and the dates when these documents were last revised and last reviewed for adequacy.
 - e. The Discharger may also be requested to submit an annual report to the Central Valley Water Board with both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. Any such request shall be made in writing. The report shall discuss the compliance record. If violations have occurred, the report shall also discuss the corrective actions taken and planned to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
4. **Groundwater Monitoring and Evaluation.** The Discharger shall continue to conduct groundwater monitoring in accordance with the MRP and shall submit a report on removal of solid wastes from the ponds by ~~81 February 2015~~, a report containing groundwater trend-plots and conclusions by ~~8 August 1 February 2015~~, annual groundwater updates by ~~1 March February 2016~~, and **annually** thereafter.
5. **Survey and Evaluation of Influent Sources of Salinity.** ~~The Discharger shall survey and evaluate the local users of the WWTP collection system and submit a report containing the results of the survey and evaluation by 8 August 2015. The Discharger shall determine the basis for the observed effluent salinity concentrations in accordance with Provision VI.C.2.c in the Limitations and Discharge Requirement section of this Order. The Discharger shall report the findings by 1 August 2017. In addition the Discharger will Implement Source Reduction or Controls within 6 months after approval by the Executive Officer~~

6. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** The Discharger shall update and implement their 4 September 2009 Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan to identify and address sources of salinity from the Facility. The updated plan shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by ~~8-May~~1 August 2015. Annual reports identifying the City's progress/set-backs in reducing salinity concentrations in the effluent shall be submitted annually thereafter (i.e. 1 August 2018, etc.).

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

Contents

I.	Permit Information.....	F-3
II.	Facility Description	F-4
	A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls	F-4
	B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters	F-4
	C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data	F-4
	D. Compliance Summary.....	F-6
	E. Planned Changes – Not Applicable.....	F-7
III.	Applicable Plans, Policies, and Regulations	F-7
	A. Legal Authorities	F-7
	B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).....	F-7
	C. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans	F-7
	D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List.....	F-10
	E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations	F-11
IV.	Rationale For Effluent Limitations and Discharge Specifications	F-11
	A. Discharge Prohibitions	F-12
	B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations	F-13
	1. Scope and Authority	F-13
	2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations.....	F-13
	C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)	F-14
	1. Scope and Authority	F-14
	2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives.....	F-14
	3. Determining the Need for WQBELs	F-22
	4. WQBEL Calculations	F-43
	5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)	F-45
	D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations	F-47
	1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations	F-47
	2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations	F-48
	3. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements.....	F-48
	4. Antidegradation Policies	F-51
	5. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants	F-52
	E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable	F-54
	F. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable	F-54
	G. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable.....	F-54
V.	Rationale for Receiving Water Limitations	F-54
	A. Surface Water.....	F-54
	B. Groundwater.....	F-56
VI.	Rationale for Provisions	F-57
	A. Standard Provisions.....	F-57
	B. Special Provisions.....	F-57
	1. Reopener Provisions	F-57
	2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements	F-58
	3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention.....	F-61
	4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications	F-62
	5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only).....	F-63
	6. Other Special Provisions	F-64
	7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable	F-64

VII. Rationale for Monitoring and Reporting Requirements	F-64
A. Influent Monitoring	F-64
B. Effluent Monitoring	F-64
C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements	F-66
D. Receiving Water Monitoring	F-66
1. Surface Water	F-66
2. Groundwater.....	F-67
E. Other Monitoring Requirements	F-68
VIII. Public Participation.....	F-68
A. Notification of Interested Parties	F-69 F-68
B. Written Comments	F-69
C. Public Hearing	F-69
D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements	F-69
E. Information and Copying.....	F-69
F. Register of Interested Persons.....	F-70 F-69
G. Additional Information	F-70 F-69

Tables

Table F-1. Facility Information.....	F-3
Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data	F-5
Table F-3. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses	F-8
Table F-4. 303 (d) List for the Colusa Basin Drain	F-10
Table F-5. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations	F-14
Table F-6. Copper ECA Evaluation	F-20
Table F-7. Lead ECA Evaluation.....	F-21
Table F-8. Summary of ECA Evaluations for CTR Hardness-dependent Metals	F-22
Table F-9. Bis (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate Effluent Data Summary	F-24
Table F-10. Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos RPA Summary.....	F-28
Table F-11. Water Quality Criteria for Detected Pesticides	F-31
Table F-12. Pesticides Detected in the Effluent	F-31
Table F-13. Salinity Water Quality Criteria/Objectives.....	F-42
Table F-14. Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations.....	F-45
Table F-15. Whole Effluent Chronic Toxicity Testing Results	F-46
Table F-16. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations.....	F-53
Table F-17. Radionuclide Data	F-67

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

As described in section I, the Central Valley Water Board incorporates this Fact Sheet as findings of the Central Valley Water Board supporting the issuance of this Order. This Fact Sheet includes the legal requirements and technical rationale that serve as the basis for the requirements of this Order.

This Order has been prepared under a standardized format to accommodate a broad range of discharge requirements for Dischargers in California. Only those sections or subsections of this Order that are specifically identified as “not applicable” have been determined not to apply to this Discharger. Sections or subsections of this Order not specifically identified as “not applicable” are fully applicable to this Discharger.

I. PERMIT INFORMATION

The following table summarizes administrative information related to the Facility.

Table F-1. Facility Information

WDID	5A060103001
Discharger	City of Williams
Name of Facility	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address	700 B Street
	Williams, CA 95987
	Colusa County
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Greg Endeman, Operator, (530) 473-2519
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Jim Saso, City Administrator, (530) 473-2955
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 310, Williams, CA 95987
Billing Address	Same as Mailing Address
Type of Facility	Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	A
Pretreatment Program	Not Applicable
Recycling Requirements	Not Applicable
Facility Permitted Flow	0.5 million gallons per day (MGD), average dry weather flow
Facility Design Flow	0.5 MGD, average dry weather flow
Watershed	Sacramento – Stone Corral
Receiving Water	Salt Creek
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

- A.** The City of Williams (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the City of Williams, Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereinafter Facility), a POTW.

For the purposes of this Order, references to the “discharger” or “permittee” in applicable federal and state laws, regulations, plans, or policy are held to be equivalent to references to the Discharger herein.

- B.** The Facility discharges wastewater to Salt Creek, a water of the United States, and a tributary to the Sacramento River via Freshwater Creek and the Colusa Basin Drain within the Sacramento – Stone Corral watershed. The Discharger was previously regulated by Order R5-2008-0185-01 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No.

CA0077933 adopted on 5 December 2008, amended on 13 August 2009, and expired on 1 December 2013. Order R5-2008-0185-01 was administratively extended in a letter from the Central Valley Water Board to the Discharger dated 6 February 2014. Attachment B provides a map of the area around the Facility. Attachment C provides a flow schematic of the Facility.

Prior to making any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that results in a decrease of flow in any portion of a watercourse, the Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Board, Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for such a change. The State Water Board retains the jurisdictional authority to enforce such requirements under Water Code section 1211.

- C. The Discharger filed a report of waste discharge (ROWD) and submitted an application for reissuance of its WDR's and NPDES permit on 3 June 2013. The application was deemed complete on 3 June 2013. A site visit was conducted on 11 December 2013 to observe operations and collect additional data to develop permit limitations and requirements for waste discharge.

II. FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Discharger provides sewerage service for the City of Williams and serves a population of approximately 5,100. The design average dry weather flow capacity of the Facility is 0.5 MGD.

A. Description of Wastewater and Biosolids Treatment and Controls

The Discharger completed an upgrade to the Facility during the term of Order R5-2008-0185-01, which began operating in June 2011. The upgraded treatment system at the Facility consists of an aeration basin, secondary clarifier, cloth filters, ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection, and re-aeration basin. Sludge is dewatered using a belt filter press. Dewatered solids from the belt filter press may be spread on a paved solids solar drying pad in the northwest corner of the Facility site for additional drying. Dried biosolids are hauled to the Ostrom Road Landfill in Wheatland, CA.

B. Discharge Points and Receiving Waters

1. The Facility is located in Section 11, T15N, R3W, MDB&M, as shown in Attachment B, a part of this Order.
2. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged at Discharge Point 001 to Salt Creek, a water of the United States, and a tributary to the Sacramento River via Freshwater Creek and the Colusa Basin Drain at a point latitude 39° 10' 11" N and longitude 122° 9' 13" W.

C. Summary of Existing Requirements and Self-Monitoring Report (SMR) Data

Effluent limitations contained in the Order R5-2008-0185-01 for discharges from Discharge Point 001 (Monitoring Location EFF-001) and representative monitoring data from the term of Order R5-2008-0185-01 are as follows:

Table F-2. Historic Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Data

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (January 2009 – August 2013)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10 ¹	15 ¹	20 ¹	5.1 ²	12 ²	12 ²
		60 ³	90 ³	120 ³	19 ⁴	26 ⁴	26 ⁴
	lbs/day	40 ¹	63 ¹	83 ¹	28 ²	66 ²	66 ²
		250 ³	376 ³	500 ³	100 ⁴	249 ⁴	249 ⁴
	% Removal	85	--	--	NR	--	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10 ¹	15 ¹	20 ¹	3.4 ²	6.0 ²	6.0 ²
		60 ³	90 ³	120 ³	47 ⁴	128 ⁴	128 ⁴
	lbs/day	40 ¹	63 ¹	83 ¹	17 ²	27 ²	27 ²
		250 ³	376 ³	500 ³	222 ⁴	577 ⁴	577 ⁴
	% Removal	85	--	--	NR	--	--
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	374/200 ⁵	--	750	980/371 ⁶	--	980
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	0.3 ⁷	--	1.5 ⁷	--	--	--
		--	--	13 ⁸	--	--	22
Bromoform	µg/L	4.3 ⁹	--	8.6 ⁹	8 ¹⁰	--	8 ¹⁰
		--	--	14 ¹¹	--	--	5.9 ¹²
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	0.41 ⁹	--	0.82 ⁹	31 ¹⁰	--	31 ¹⁰
		--	--	130 ¹¹	--	--	42 ¹²
Chloroform	µg/L	80 ⁹	--	160 ⁹	33 ¹⁰	--	33 ¹⁰
		--	--	860 ¹¹	--	--	70 ¹²
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	4.3 ⁹	--	8.5 ⁹	7.9 ¹⁰	--	7.9 ¹⁰
		--	--	130 ¹¹	--	--	5.3 ¹²
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	0.56 ⁹	--	1.12 ⁹	42 ¹⁰	--	42 ¹⁰
		--	--	320 ¹¹	--	--	71 ¹²
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	10 ⁷	--	--	--	--	--
		47 ⁸	--	--	26	--	--
Total Trihalomethanes ¹³	µg/L	80	--	--	184	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	6.5 – 8.5	--	--	6.4 – 8.1
Settleable Solids	mL/L-hr	0.1	--	0.2	0.74	--	3.5
Mercury, Total Recoverable	lbs/month	0.0014 ¹⁴	--	--	0.0062 ¹⁵	--	--
Acute Toxicity	% Survival	--	--	70 ¹⁶ /90 ¹⁷	--	--	95 ¹⁸
Chlorine, Total Residual	mg/L	--	0.01 ¹⁹	0.02 ²⁰	--	--	<0.1

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitation			Monitoring Data (January 2009 – August 2013)		
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Highest Average Monthly Discharge	Highest Average Weekly Discharge	Highest Daily Discharge
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	2.2 ^{1,21}	23 ^{1,22} 240 ¹	--	--	27 ²
		23 ^{3,23}	--	500 ³	--	--	2,400 ⁴
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	300 ^{5,7}	--	--	--	--	--
		--	--	1,800 ⁸	--	--	1,220
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	50 ^{5,7}	--	--	--	--	--
		--	--	360	--	--	200
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	2,300 ⁵	--	--	2,032 ⁶	--	--
Average Dry Weather Flow	MGD	--	--	0.5 ²⁴	--	--	2.3 ²⁵

- ¹ Final effluent limitation effective 1 January 2012 (per TSO R5-2007-0096, as amended).
- ² Represents the maximum observed value based on data collected between 1 January 2012 and 31 August 2013.
- ³ Interim effluent limitation effective until 30 December 2011 (per TSO R5-2007-0096, as amended).
- ⁴ Represents the maximum observed value based on data collected between 1 January 2009 and 30 December 2011.
- ⁵ Applied as an annual average effluent limitation.
- ⁶ Represents the maximum observed annual average effluent concentration.
- ⁷ Final effluent limitation effective 5 December 2013.
- ⁸ Interim effluent limitation effective until 4 December 2013.
- ⁹ Final effluent limitation effective 18 May 2010.
- ¹⁰ Represents maximum observed value based on data collected between 18 May 2010 and 31 August 2013.
- ¹¹ Interim effluent limitation effective until 17 May 2010.
- ¹² Represents maximum observed value based on data collected between 1 January 2009 and 17 May 2010.
- ¹³ Applies to the sum of bromoform, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, and chlorodibromomethane.
- ¹⁴ The total monthly mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.0014 lbs/month.
- ¹⁵ Represents the maximum observed total monthly mass discharge.
- ¹⁶ Minimum for any one bioassay.
- ¹⁷ Median for any three consecutive bioassays.
- ¹⁸ Represents the minimum observed percent survival.
- ¹⁹ Applied as a 4-day average effluent limitation.
- ²⁰ Applied as a 1-hour average effluent limitation.
- ²¹ Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.
- ²² Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.
- ²³ Applied as a monthly median effluent limitation.
- ²⁴ The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 0.5 MGD.
- ²⁵ Represents the maximum observed average daily flow.

D. Compliance Summary

1. The Central Valley Water Board issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R5-2011-0517 on 4 February 2011 which proposed to assess a civil liability of \$126,000 against the Discharger for violations of the effluent limitations for aluminum, ammonia, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, pH, settleable solids,

and total suspended solids (TSS) in Orders 5-01-149 and R5-2008-0185-01. The Discharger settled this ACL by completion of a compliance project.

2. The Central Valley Water Board issued ACL Complaint No. R5-2011-0582 on 24 June 2011 which proposed to assess a civil liability of \$156,000 against the Discharger for violations of the effluent limitations for ammonia, 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅), chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, pH, and TSS in Order R5-2008-0185-01. The Discharger settled this ACL by completion of a compliance project.
3. The Central Valley Water Board issued ACL Complaint No. R5-2012-0548 on 22 June 2012 which proposed to assess a civil liability of \$222,000 against the Discharger for violations of the effluent limitations for BOD₅, chlorodibromomethane, dichlorobromomethane, total coliform organisms, and TSS in Order R5-2008-0185-01. The Discharger settled this ACL by completion of a compliance project.
4. The Central Valley Water Board issued ACL Complaint No. R5-2013-0580 on 13 September 2013 which proposed to assess a civil liability of \$3,000 against the Discharger for violations of the effluent limitations for aluminum and total coliform organisms in Order R5-2008-0185-01. The Discharger settled this ACL by completion of a compliance project.

E. Planned Changes – Not Applicable

III. APPLICABLE PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

The requirements contained in this Order are based on the requirements and authorities described in this section.

A. Legal Authorities

This Order serves as WDR's pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13260). This Order is also issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations adopted by the U.S. EPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the Water Code (commencing with section 13370). It shall serve as an NPDES permit for point source discharges from this Facility to surface waters.

B. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under Water Code section 13389, this action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA, (commencing with section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.

C. State and Federal Laws, Regulations, Policies, and Plans

1. **Water Quality Control Plans.** Requirements of this Order specifically implement the applicable Water Quality Control Plans.
 - a. **Basin Plan.** The Central Valley Water Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan, Fourth Edition (Revised October 2011), for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (hereinafter Basin Plan) that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the plan. Requirements in this Order implement the Basin Plan.

The Basin Plan at II-2.00 states that the beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams. The Basin Plan in Table II-1, Section II, does not specifically identify beneficial uses for Salt Creek, but does identify present and potential uses for the Colusa Basin Drain, to which Salt Creek,

via Freshwater Creek, is tributary. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply.

As stated in Chapter II of the Basin Plan, “*Water Bodies within the basins that do not have beneficial uses designated in Table II-1 are assigned MUN designations in accordance with the provisions of State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63 which is, by reference, a part of the Basin Plan*” except for two non-applicable exceptions. Furthermore, as specified in Chapter IV of the Basin Plan, an exception to Resolution No. 88-63, and removal of the MUN beneficial use designation for the receiving water, is effective after a Basin Plan amendment is adopted by the Central Valley Water Board and approved by the State Water Board and Office of Administrative Law. Therefore, this Order contains effluent limitations necessary to protect the MUN beneficial use of the receiving water.

Thus, beneficial uses applicable to Salt Creek are as follows:

Table F-3. Basin Plan Beneficial Uses

Discharge Point	Receiving Water Name	Beneficial Use(s)
001	Salt Creek	<u>Existing:</u> Municipal and domestic supply (MUN); agricultural supply, including stock watering (AGR); water contact recreation, including canoeing and rafting (REC-1); warm freshwater habitat (WARM); warm migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR); warm spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN); and wildlife habitat (WILD). <u>Potential</u> Cold freshwater habitat (COLD)
--	Groundwater	<u>Existing:</u> Municipal and domestic supply (MUN); agricultural supply (AGR); industrial service supply (IND); and industrial process supply (PRO).

2. **National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR).** U.S. EPA adopted the NTR on 22 December 1992, and later amended it on 4 May 1995 and 9 November 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On 18 May 2000, U.S. EPA adopted the CTR. The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the State. The CTR was amended on 13 February 2001. These rules contain federal water quality criteria for priority pollutants.
3. **State Implementation Policy.** On 2 March 2000, the State Water Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The SIP became effective on 28 April 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated for California by the U.S. EPA through the NTR and to the priority pollutant objectives established by the Central Valley Water Board in the Basin Plan. The SIP became effective on 18 May 2000, with respect to the priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. EPA through the CTR. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the SIP on 24 February 2005, that became effective on 13 July 2005. The SIP establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria and objectives and provisions for chronic toxicity control. Requirements of this Order implement the SIP.

4. **Antidegradation Policy.** Federal regulation 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 requires that the State water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution 68-16. Resolution 68-16 is deemed to incorporate the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution 68-16 requires that existing water quality be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Central Valley Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. The permitted discharge must be consistent with the antidegradation provision of 40 C.F.R. section 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution 68-16.
5. **Anti-Backsliding Requirements.** Sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) of the CWA and federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(l) restrict backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require that effluent limitations in a reissued permit must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions in which limitations may be relaxed.
6. **Human Right to Water Act.** In compliance with Water Code section 106.3, it is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This Order promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.
7. **Endangered Species Act Requirements.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with effluent limits, receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the State. The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.
8. **Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.** Section 13263.6(a) of the Water Code, requires that *"the Regional Water Board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the waste discharge requirements of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) (EPCRA) indicate as discharged into the POTW, for which the State Water Board or the Regional Water Board has established numeric water quality objectives, and has determined that the discharge is or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to, an excursion above any numeric water quality objective"*.

The most recent toxic chemical data report does not indicate any reportable off-site releases or discharges to the collection system for this Facility. Therefore, a reasonable potential analysis based on information from EPCRA cannot be conducted. Based on information from EPCRA, there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an excursion above any numeric water quality objectives included within the Basin Plan or in any State Water Board plan, so no effluent limitations are included in this permit pursuant to Water Code section 13263.6(a).

However, as detailed elsewhere in this Order, available effluent data indicate that there are constituents present in the effluent that have a reasonable potential to cause or

contribute to exceedances of water quality standards and require inclusion of effluent limitations based on federal and state laws and regulations.

9. **Storm Water Requirements.** USEPA promulgated federal regulations for storm water on 16 November 1990 in 40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124. The NPDES Industrial Storm Water Program regulates storm water discharges from wastewater treatment facilities. Wastewater treatment plants are applicable industries under the storm water program and are obligated to comply with the federal regulations. The State Water Board does not require wastewater treatment facilities with design flows less than 1 MGD to obtain coverage under the Industrial Stormwater General Order. Therefore, this Order does not regulate storm water.

D. Impaired Water Bodies on CWA 303(d) List

1. Under section 303(d) of the 1972 CWA, states, territories and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of water quality limited segments. The waters on these lists do not meet water quality standards, even after point sources of pollution have installed the minimum required levels of pollution control technology. On 11 October 2011 U.S. EPA gave final approval to California's 2008-2010 section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments (WQLSs). The Basin Plan references this list of WQLSs, which are defined as "...those sections of lakes, streams, rivers or other fresh water bodies where water quality does not meet (or is not expected to meet) water quality standards even after the application of appropriate limitations for point sources (40 CFR Part 130, et seq.)." The Basin Plan also states, "Additional treatment beyond minimum federal standards will be imposed on dischargers to [WQLSs]. Dischargers will be assigned or allocated a maximum allowable load of critical pollutants so that water quality objectives can be met in the segment." Salt Creek and Freshwater Creek are not listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies. The listing for the Colusa Basin Drain, to which Salt Creek is tributary via Freshwater Creek, includes: azinphos-methyl (Guthion), carbofuran, DDT, diazinon, dieldrin, *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), Group A pesticides, low dissolved oxygen, malathion, mercury, and unknown toxicity.
2. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).** USEPA requires the Central Valley Water Board to develop TMDLs for each 303(d) listed pollutant and water body combination. Table F-4, below, identifies the 303(d) listings and the status of each TMDL.

Table F-4. 303 (d) List for the Colusa Basin Drain

Pollutant	Potential Sources	Proposed TMDL Completion
Azinphos-methyl (Guthion)	Agriculture	2019
Carbofuran	Agriculture	2021
DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane)	Source Unknown	2021
Diazinon	Agriculture	2008 ¹
Dieldrin	Agriculture	2021
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E. coli</i>)	Source Unknown	2021
Group A Pesticides	Agriculture	2019
Low Dissolved Oxygen	Source Unknown	2021
Malathion	Agriculture	Unknown
Mercury	Resource Extraction	2021
Unknown Toxicity	Agriculture	2019

1. TMDL completed and approved.

3. The 303(d) listings and TMDLs have been considered in the development of the Order. A pollutant-by-pollutant evaluation of each pollutant of concern is described in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet. This Order includes a mass-based effluent limitation for

mercury designed to maintain the Facility's current level of treatment performance until a mercury TMDL is approved and implemented.

E. Other Plans, Policies and Regulations

1. **Discharge Monitoring Report-Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study Program.** Under the authority of section 308 of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1318), U.S. EPA requires major permittees under the NPDES Program to participate in the annual DMR-QA Study Program. The DMR-QA Study evaluates the analytical ability of laboratories that routinely perform or support self-monitoring analyses required by NPDES permits. There are two options to satisfy the requirements of the DMR-QA Study Program: (1) the Discharger can obtain and analyze a DMR-QA sample as part of the DMR-QA Study; or (2) per the waiver issued by U.S.EPA to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the Discharger can submit the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study from their own laboratories or their contract laboratories. A Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study is similar to the DMR-QA Study. Thus, it also evaluates a laboratory's ability to analyze wastewater samples to produce quality data that ensure the integrity of the NPDES Program. Unless U.S. EPA specifically requires the Discharger to participate, it is not necessary for the Discharger to submit annually the results of the DMR-QA Study or the results of the most recent Water Pollution Performance Evaluation Study to the State Water Board.
2. **Title 27.** The discharge authorized herein and the treatment and storage facilities associated with the discharge of treated municipal wastewater, except for discharges of residual sludge and solid waste, are exempt from the requirements of Title 27, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 20005 *et seq* (hereafter Title 27). The exemption, pursuant to Title 27 CCR section 20090(a), is based on the following:
 - a. The waste consists primarily of domestic sewage and treated effluent;
 - b. The waste discharge requirements are consistent with water quality objectives; and
 - c. The treatment and storage facilities described herein are associated with a municipal wastewater treatment plant.

IV. RATIONALE FOR EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS

Effluent limitations and toxic and pretreatment effluent standards established pursuant to sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 304 (Information and Guidelines), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the CWA and amendments thereto are applicable to the discharge.

The CWA mandates the implementation of effluent limitations that are as stringent as necessary to meet water quality standards established pursuant to state or federal law [33 U.S.C., §1311(b)(1)(C); 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)]. NPDES permits must incorporate discharge limits necessary to ensure that water quality standards are met. This requirement applies to narrative criteria as well as to criteria specifying maximum amounts of particular pollutants. Pursuant to federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i), NPDES permits must contain limits that control all pollutants that *"are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any state water quality standard, including state narrative criteria for water quality."* Federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vi), further provide that *"[w]here a state has not established a water quality criterion for a specific chemical pollutant that is present in an effluent at a concentration that causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above a narrative criterion within an applicable State water quality standard, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits."*

The CWA requires point source dischargers to control the amount of conventional, non-conventional, and toxic pollutants that are discharged into the waters of the United States. The control of pollutants discharged is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in NPDES permits. There are two principal bases for effluent limitations in the Code of Federal Regulations: 40 CFR 122.44(a) requires that permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards; and 40 CFR 122.44(d) requires that permits include WQBELs to attain and maintain applicable numeric and narrative water quality criteria to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water where numeric water quality objectives have not been established. The Basin Plan at page IV-17.00, contains an implementation policy, "Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives", that specifies that the Central Valley Water Board "*will, on a case-by-case basis, adopt numerical limitations in orders which will implement the narrative objectives.*" This Policy complies with 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1). With respect to narrative objectives, the Central Valley Water Board must establish effluent limitations using one or more of three specified sources, including: (1) USEPA's published water quality criteria, (2) a proposed state criterion (i.e., water quality objective) or an explicit state policy interpreting its narrative water quality criteria (i.e., the Central Valley Water Board's "Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives")(40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vi)(A), (B) or (C)), or (3) an indicator parameter.

The Basin Plan includes numeric site-specific water quality objectives and narrative objectives for toxicity, chemical constituents, discoloration, radionuclides, and tastes and odors. The narrative toxicity objective states: "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at III-8.00) The Basin Plan states that material and relevant information, including numeric criteria, and recommendations from other agencies and scientific literature will be utilized in evaluating compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. The narrative chemical constituents objective states that waters shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. At minimum, "*...water designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs)*" in Title 22 of CCR. The Basin Plan further states that, to protect all beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board may apply limits more stringent than MCLs. The narrative tastes and odors objective states: "*Water shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to domestic or municipal water supplies or to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.*"

A. Discharge Prohibitions

1. **Prohibition III.A (No discharge or application of waste other than that described in this Order).** This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13260 that requires filing of a ROWD before discharges can occur. The Discharger submitted a ROWD for the discharges described in this Order; therefore, discharges not described in this Order are prohibited.
2. **Prohibition III.B (No bypasses or overflow of wastes, except under the conditions at CFR Part 122.41(m)(4)).** As stated in section I.G of Attachment D, Standard Provisions, this Order prohibits bypass from any portion of the treatment facility. Federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.41(m), define "bypass" as the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. This section of the federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.41(m)(4), prohibits bypass unless it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage. In considering the Regional Water Board's prohibition of bypasses, the State Water Board adopted a precedential decision, Order No. WQO 2002-0015, which cites the federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.41(m), as allowing bypass only for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

3. **Prohibition III.C (No controllable condition shall create a nuisance).** This prohibition is based on Water Code section 13050 that requires water quality objectives established for the prevention of nuisance within a specific area. The Basin Plan prohibits conditions that create a nuisance.
4. **Prohibition III.D (No inclusion of pollutant free wastewater shall cause improper operation of the Facility's systems).** This prohibition is based on CFR Part 122.41 et seq. that requires the proper design and operation of treatment facilities.

B. Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

1. Scope and Authority

Section 301(b) of the CWA and implementing U.S. EPA permit regulations at 40 C.F.R. section 122.44 require that permits include conditions meeting applicable technology-based requirements at a minimum, and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The discharge authorized by this Order must meet minimum federal technology-based requirements based on Secondary Treatment Standards at 40 C.F.R. part 133.

Regulations promulgated in 40 C.F.R. section 125.3(a)(1) require technology-based effluent limitations for municipal Dischargers to be placed in NPDES permits based on Secondary Treatment Standards or Equivalent to Secondary Treatment Standards.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500) established the minimum performance requirements for POTWs [defined in section 304(d)(1)]. Section 301(b)(1)(B) of that Act requires that such treatment works must, as a minimum, meet effluent limitations based on secondary treatment as defined by the U.S. EPA Administrator.

Based on this statutory requirement, U.S. EPA developed secondary treatment regulations, which are specified in 40 C.F.R. part 133. These technology-based regulations apply to all municipal wastewater treatment plants and identify the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment in terms of BOD₅, TSS, and pH.

2. Applicable Technology-Based Effluent Limitations

- a. **BOD₅ and TSS.** Federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 133, establish the minimum weekly and monthly average level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment for BOD₅ and TSS. This Order establishes WQBELs that are equal to or more stringent than the secondary technology-based treatment described in 40 CFR Part 133 and are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving stream. (See section IV.C.3.b of this Attachment for the discussion on WQBELs for pathogens). In addition, 40 CFR 133.102, in describing the minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment, states that the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent. This Order contains a limitation requiring an average of 85 percent removal of BOD₅ and TSS over each calendar month.
- b. **pH.** The secondary treatment regulations at 40 CFR Part 133 also require that pH be maintained between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units.
- c. **Flow.** The Facility was designed to provide a tertiary level of treatment for up to a design flow of 0.5 MGD. Therefore, this Order contains an average dry weather discharge flow effluent limit of 0.5 MGD.

**Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point No. 001**

Table F-5. Summary of Technology-based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Flow	MGD	--	--	0.5 ¹	--	--
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-Day @ 20°C) ²	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	lbs/day ³	125	188	--	--	--
pH ²	standard units	--	--	--	6.0	9.0
Total Suspended Solids ²	mg/L	30	45	--	--	--
	lbs/day ³	125	188	--	--	--

¹ The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 0.5 MGD.

² More stringent WQBELs are applicable to the discharge and are included in this Order, as described further in section IV.C.3.b of this Fact Sheet.

³ Based upon an average dry weather flow of 0.5 MGD.

C. Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

1. Scope and Authority

CWA Section 301(b) and 40 C.F.R. section 122.44(d) require that permits include limitations more stringent than applicable federal technology-based requirements where necessary to achieve applicable water quality standards. This Order contains requirements, expressed as a technology equivalence requirement, more stringent than secondary treatment requirements that are necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. The rationale for these requirements, which consist of tertiary treatment or equivalent requirements or other provisions, is discussed in section IV.C.3.b of this Fact Sheet.

Section 122.44(d)(1)(i) of 40 C.F.R. requires that permits include effluent limitations for all pollutants that are or may be discharged at levels that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, including numeric and narrative objectives within a standard. Where reasonable potential has been established for a pollutant, but there is no numeric criterion or objective for the pollutant, WQBELs must be established using: (1) U.S. EPA criteria guidance under CWA section 304(a), supplemented where necessary by other relevant information; (2) an indicator parameter for the pollutant of concern; or (3) a calculated numeric water quality criterion, such as a proposed state criterion or policy interpreting the state's narrative criterion, supplemented with other relevant information, as provided in section 122.44(d)(1)(vi).

The process for determining reasonable potential and calculating WQBELs when necessary is intended to protect the designated uses of the receiving water as specified in the Basin Plan, and achieve applicable water quality objectives and criteria that are contained in other state plans and policies, or any applicable water quality criteria contained in the CTR and NTR.

2. Applicable Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Criteria and Objectives

The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters

addressed through the plan. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply.

The Basin Plan on page II-1.00 states: *“Protection and enhancement of existing and potential beneficial uses are primary goals of water quality planning...”* and with respect to disposal of wastewaters states that *“...disposal of wastewaters is [not] a prohibited use of waters of the State; it is merely a use which cannot be satisfied to the detriment of beneficial uses.”*

The federal CWA section 101(a)(2), states: *“it is the national goal that wherever attainable, an interim goal of water quality which provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and for recreation in and on the water be achieved by July 1, 1983.”* Federal Regulations, developed to implement the requirements of the CWA, create a rebuttable presumption that all waters be designated as fishable and swimmable. Federal Regulations, 40 CFR sections 131.2 and 131.10, require that all waters of the State regulated to protect the beneficial uses of public water supply, protection and propagation of fish, shell fish and wildlife, recreation in and on the water, agricultural, industrial and other purposes including navigation. Section 131.3(e), 40 CFR, defines existing beneficial uses as those uses actually attained after 28 November 1975, whether or not they are included in the water quality standards. Federal Regulation, 40 CFR section 131.10 requires that uses be obtained by implementing effluent limitations, requires that all downstream uses be protected and states that in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a beneficial use for any waters of the United States.

- a. **Receiving Water and Beneficial Uses.** Refer to III.C.1. above for a complete description of the receiving water and beneficial uses.
- b. **Effluent and Ambient Background Data.** The Discharger completed an upgrade to the Facility, which came online on 20 June 2011 and included tertiary filtration and UV disinfection. Subsequent to the upgrade, the Central Valley Water Board granted the Discharger a 90-day grace period from mandatory minimum penalties pursuant to California Water Code 13385(j)(1)(D)(i), which ended on 18 September 2011. Thus, effluent monitoring data collected prior to 18 September 2011 is not representative of effluent quality from the new Facility. The RPA, as described in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet, was based on effluent data collected between October 2011 and August 2013 and priority pollutant data collected on 2 October 2012 and 2 October 2013. The RPA was also based on upstream receiving water data collected between January 2008 and August 2013 for DO, pH, turbidity, temperature, EC, hardness, radionuclides, and fecal coliform organisms. Previous Order R5-2008-0185-01 did not require analysis of Priority Pollutants in the receiving water, and therefore, receiving water data for priority pollutants was not used in the RPA. However, this Order requires the Discharger to collect upstream receiving water samples for analysis of priority pollutants and other constituents of concern. Should monitoring results demonstrate a reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards, this Order may be reopened to add or modify effluent limits.
- c. **Assimilative Capacity/Mixing Zone.** Based on the available information, the worst-case dilution is assumed to be zero to provide protection for the receiving water beneficial uses. The impact of assuming zero assimilative capacity within the

receiving water is that discharge limitations are end-of-pipe limits with no allowance for dilution within the receiving water.

- d. **Conversion Factors.** The CTR contains aquatic life criteria for arsenic, cadmium, chromium III, chromium VI, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc which are presented in dissolved concentrations. USEPA recommends conversion factors to translate dissolved concentrations to total concentrations. The default USEPA conversion factors contained in Appendix 3 of the SIP were used to convert the applicable dissolved criteria to total recoverable criteria.
- e. **Hardness-Dependent CTR Metals Criteria.** The *California Toxics Rule* and the *National Toxics Rule* contain water quality criteria for seven metals that vary as a function of hardness. The lower the hardness the lower the water quality criteria. The metals with hardness-dependent criteria include cadmium, copper, chromium III, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc.

This Order has established the criteria for hardness-dependent metals based on the reasonable worst-case ambient hardness as required by the SIP¹, the CTR² and State Water Board Order No. WQO 2008-0008 (City of Davis). The SIP and the CTR require the use of “receiving water” or “actual ambient” hardness, respectively, to determine effluent limitations for these metals. (SIP, § 1.2; 40 CFR § 131.38(c)(4)) The CTR does not define whether the term “ambient,” as applied in the regulations, necessarily requires the consideration of upstream as opposed to downstream hardness conditions. Therefore, where reliable, representative data are available, the hardness value for calculating criteria can be the downstream receiving water hardness, after mixing with the effluent (Order WQO 2008-0008, p. 11). The Central Valley Water Board thus has considerable discretion in determining ambient hardness (*Id.*, p.10).

As discussed below, scientific literature provides a reliable method for calculating protective hardness-dependent CTR criteria, considering all discharge conditions. This methodology produces hardness-dependent CTR criteria based on the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness that ensure these metals do not cause receiving water toxicity under any downstream receiving water condition. Under this methodology, the Central Valley Water Board considers all hardness conditions that could occur in the ambient downstream receiving water after the effluent has mixed with the water body³. This ensures that effluent limitations are fully protective of aquatic life in all areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge under all flow conditions, at the fully mixed location, and throughout the water body including at the point of discharge into the water body.

- i. **Conducting the RPA.** The SIP in Section 1.3 states, “*The RWQCB shall...determine whether a discharge may: (1) cause, (2) have a reasonable potential to cause, or (3) contribute to an excursion above any applicable priority pollutant criterion or objective.*” Section 1.3 provides a step-by-step procedure for conducting the RPA. The procedure requires the comparison of

¹ The SIP does not address how to determine the hardness for application to the equations for the protection of aquatic life when using hardness-dependent metals criteria. It simply states, in Section 1.2, that the criteria shall be properly adjusted for hardness using the hardness of the receiving water.

² The CTR requires that, for waters with a hardness of 400 mg/L (as CaCO₃), or less, the actual ambient hardness of the surface water must be used. It further requires that the hardness values used must be consistent with the design discharge conditions for design flows and mixing zones.

³ All effluent discharges will change the ambient downstream metals concentration and hardness. It is not possible to change the metals concentration without also changing the hardness.

the maximum effluent concentration (MEC) and maximum ambient background concentration to the applicable criterion that has been properly adjusted for hardness. Unless otherwise noted, for the hardness-dependent CTR metals criteria the following procedures were followed for properly adjusting the criterion for hardness when conducting the RPA.

- (a) The SIP requires WQBELs if the MEC is equal to or exceeds the applicable criterion, adjusted for hardness. For comparing the MEC to the applicable criterion, the “fully mixed” reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criterion. In this evaluation the portion of the receiving water affected by the discharge is analyzed. For hardness-dependent criteria, the hardness of the effluent has an impact on the determination of the applicable criterion in areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge. Therefore, for comparing the MEC to the applicable criterion, the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criterion. For this situation it is necessary to consider the hardness of the effluent in determining the applicable hardness to adjust the criterion. The procedures for determining the applicable criterion after proper adjustment using the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness is outlined in subsection ii, below.
- (b) The SIP requires WQBELs if the receiving water is impaired upstream (outside the influence) of the discharge, i.e., if the Maximum Ambient Background Concentration of a pollutant exceeds the applicable criterion, adjusted for hardness¹. For comparing the Maximum Ambient Background Concentration to the applicable criterion, the reasonable worst-case upstream ambient hardness was used to adjust the criteria. This is appropriate, because this area is outside the influence of the discharge. Since the discharge does not impact the upstream hardness, the effect of the effluent hardness was not included in this evaluation.

- ii. **Calculating Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations.** The remaining discussion in this section relates to the development of WQBELs when it has been determined that the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR hardness-dependent metals criteria in the receiving water.

A 2006 Study² developed procedures for calculating the effluent concentration allowance (ECA)³ for CTR hardness-dependent metals. The 2006 Study demonstrated that it is necessary to evaluate all discharge conditions (e.g., high and low flow conditions) and the hardness and metals concentrations of the effluent and receiving water when determining the appropriate ECA for these hardness-dependent metals. This method is superior to relying on downstream receiving water samples alone because it captures all possible mixed conditions in the receiving water. Both receiving water and effluent hardness vary based on flow and other factors, but the variability of receiving water and effluent hardness is sometimes independent. Using a calculated

¹ The pollutant must also be detected in the effluent.

² Emerick, R.W.; Borroum, Y.; & Pedri, J.E., 2006. California and National Toxics Rule Implementation and Development of Protective Hardness Based Metal Effluent Limitations. WEFTEC, Chicago, Ill.

³ The ECA is defined in Appendix 1 of the SIP (page Appendix 1-2). The ECA is used to calculate WQBELs in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP.

hardness value ensures that the Central Valley Water Board considers all possible mixed downstream values that may result from these two independent variables. Relying on receiving water sampling alone is less likely to capture all possible mixed downstream conditions.

The equation describing the total recoverable regulatory criterion, as established in the CTR¹, is as follows:

$$\text{CTR Criterion} = \text{WER} \times (e^{m[\ln(H)]+b}) \text{ (Equation 1)}$$

Where:

H = hardness (as CaCO₃)²

WER = water-effect ratio

m, b = metal- and criterion-specific constants

In accordance with the CTR, the default value for the WER is 1. A WER study must be conducted to use a value other than 1. The constants “m” and “b” are specific to both the metal under consideration, and the type of total recoverable criterion (i.e., acute or chronic). The metal-specific values for these constants are provided in the CTR at paragraph (b)(2), Table 1.

The equation for the ECA is defined in Section 1.4, Step 2, of the SIP and is as follows:

$$\text{ECA} = C \quad (\text{when } C \leq B)^3 \text{ (Equation 2)}$$

Where:

C = the priority pollutant criterion/objective, adjusted for hardness (see Equation 1, above)

B = the ambient background concentration

The 2006 Study demonstrated that the relationship between hardness and the calculated criteria is the same for some metals, so the same procedure for calculating the ECA may be used for these metals. The same procedure can be used for cadmium (chronic), chromium III, copper, nickel, and zinc. These metals are hereinafter referred to as “Concave Down Metals”. “Concave Down” refers to the shape of the curve represented by the relationship between hardness and the CTR criteria in Equation 1. Another similar procedure can be used for determining the ECA for cadmium (acute), lead, and silver (acute), which are referred to hereafter as “Concave Up Metals”.

ECA for Cadmium (Chronic), Chromium III, Copper, Nickel, and Zinc – For Concave Down Metals (i.e., cadmium (chronic), chromium III, copper, nickel, and zinc) the 2006 Study demonstrates that when the effluent is in compliance with the CTR criteria and the upstream receiving water is in compliance with the CTR criteria, any mixture of the effluent and receiving water will always be in compliance with the CTR criteria⁴. The 2006 Study proves that regardless of whether the effluent hardness is lower or greater than the upstream hardness, the reasonable worst-case flow condition is the effluent dominated condition

¹ 40 CFR § 131.38(b)(2).

² For this discussion, all hardness values are in mg/L as CaCO₃.

³ The 2006 Study assumes the ambient background metals concentration is equal to the CTR criterion (i.e., $C \leq B$)

⁴ 2006 Study, p. 5700

(i.e., no receiving water flow)¹. Consequently, for Concave Down Metals, the CTR criteria have been calculated using the downstream ambient hardness under this condition.

The effluent hardness ranged from 263 mg/L to 302 mg/L, based on 15 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. The upstream receiving water hardness varied from 69 mg/L to 270 mg/L, based on 87 samples collected between January 2008 and August 2013. Under the effluent dominated condition, the reasonable worst-case downstream ambient hardness is 263 mg/L. As demonstrated in the example shown in Table F-6, below, using this hardness to calculate the ECA for all Concave Down Metals will result in WQBELs that are protective under all flow conditions, from the effluent dominated condition to high flow condition. This example for copper assumes the following conservative conditions for the upstream receiving water:

- Upstream receiving water always at the lowest observed upstream receiving water hardness (i.e., 69 mg/L)
- Upstream receiving water copper concentration always at the CTR criteria (i.e., no assimilative capacity).

Using these reasonable worst-case receiving water conditions, a simple mass balance (as shown in Equation 3, below) accounts for all possible mixtures of effluent and receiving water under all flow conditions.

$$C_{MIX} = C_{RW} \times (1-EF) + C_{Eff} \times (EF) \quad (\text{Equation 3})$$

Where:

C_{MIX} = Mixed concentration (e.g. metals or hardness)

C_{RW} = Upstream receiving water concentration

C_{Eff} = Effluent concentration

EF = Effluent Fraction

In this example, for copper, for any receiving water flow condition (high flow to low flow), the fully-mixed downstream ambient copper concentration is in compliance with the CTR criteria².

¹ There are two typographical errors in the 2006 Study in the discussion of Concave Down Metals when the effluent hardness is less than the receiving water hardness. The effluent and receiving water hardness were transposed in the discussion, but the correct hardness values were used in the calculations. The typographical errors were confirmed by the author of the 2006 Study, by email dated 1 April 2011, from Dr. Robert Emerick to Mr. James Marshall, Central Valley Water Board.

² This method considers the actual lowest observed upstream hardness and actual lowest observed effluent hardness to determine the reasonable worst-case ambient downstream hardness under all possible receiving water flow conditions. Table F-6 demonstrates that the receiving water is always in compliance with the CTR criteria at the fully-mixed location in the receiving water. It also demonstrates that the receiving water is in compliance with the CTR criteria for all mixtures from the point of discharge to the fully-mixed location. Therefore, a mixing zone is not used for compliance.

Table F-6. Copper ECA Evaluation

Lowest Observed Effluent Hardness					263 mg/L (as CaCO ₃)
Lowest Observed Upstream Receiving Water Hardness					69 mg/L (as CaCO ₃)
Highest Assumed Upstream Receiving Water Copper Concentration					6.8 µg/L ¹
Copper ECA _{chronic} ²					21 µg/L
Effluent Fraction ⁶		Fully Mixed Downstream Ambient Concentration			
		Hardness ³ (mg/L)	CTR Criteria ⁴ (µg/L)	Copper ⁵ (µg/L)	Complies with CTR Criteria
<div>High Flow</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Low Flow</div>	1%	71	7.0	6.9	Yes
	5%	79	7.6	7.5	Yes
	15%	98	9.2	9.0	Yes
	25%	118	11	10	Yes
	50%	166	14	14	Yes
	75%	215	18	18	Yes
	100%	263	21	21	Yes

¹ Highest assumed upstream receiving water copper concentration calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 69 mg/L.

² ECA calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 263 mg/L.

³ Fully mixed downstream ambient hardness is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent hardness at the applicable effluent fraction using Equation 3.

⁴ Fully mixed downstream ambient criteria are the chronic criteria calculated using Equation 1 at the mixed hardness.

⁵ Fully mixed downstream ambient copper concentration is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent copper concentrations at the applicable effluent fraction using Equation 3.

⁶ The effluent fraction ranges from 1% at the high receiving water flow condition, to 100% at the lowest receiving water flow condition (i.e., effluent dominated).

ECA for Cadmium (Acute), Lead, and Silver (Acute) – For Concave Up Metals (i.e., cadmium (acute), lead, and silver (acute)), the relationship between hardness and the metals criteria is different than for Concave Down Metals. The 2006 Study demonstrates that for Concave Up Metals, the effluent and upstream receiving water can be in compliance with the CTR criteria, but the resulting mixture may contain metals concentrations that exceed the CTR criteria and could cause toxicity. For these metals, the 2006 Study provides a mathematical approach to calculate the ECA that is protective of aquatic life, in all areas of the receiving water affected by the discharge, under all discharge and receiving water flow conditions (see Equation 4, below).

The ECA, as calculated using Equation 4, is based on the reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water hardness, the lowest observed effluent hardness, and assuming no receiving water assimilative capacity for metals (i.e., ambient background metals concentrations are at their respective CTR criterion). Equation 4 is not used in place of the CTR equation (Equation 1). Rather, Equation 4, which is derived using the CTR equation, is used as a direct approach for calculating the ECA. This replaces an iterative approach for calculating the ECA. The CTR equation has been used to evaluate the receiving water downstream of the discharge at all discharge and flow conditions to ensure the ECA is protective (e.g., see Table F-7).

$$ECA = \left(\frac{m(H_e - H_{rw})(e^{m\{\ln(H_{rw})\} + b})}{H_{rw}} \right) + e^{m\{\ln(H_{rw})\} + b} \quad (\text{Equation 4})$$

Where:

m, b= criterion specific constants (from CTR)

H_e = lowest observed effluent hardness

H_{rw} = reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water hardness

An example similar to the Concave Down Metals is shown for lead, a Concave Up Metal, in Table F-7, below. As previously mentioned, the lowest effluent hardness is 263 mg/L, while the upstream receiving water hardness ranged from 69 mg/L to 270 mg/L. In this case, the reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water hardness to use in Equation 4 to calculate the ECA is 69 mg/L.

Using the procedures discussed above to calculate the ECA for all Concave Up Metals will result in WQBELs that are protective under all potential effluent/receiving water flow conditions (high flow to low flow) and under all known hardness conditions, as demonstrated in Table F-7, for lead.

Table F-7. Lead ECA Evaluation

Lowest Observed Effluent Hardness					263 mg/L
Reasonable Worst-case Upstream Receiving Water Hardness					69 mg/L
Reasonable Worst-case Upstream Receiving Water Lead Concentration					2.0 µg/L ¹
Lead ECA _{chronic} ²					9.1 µg/L
Effluent Fraction ⁶		Fully Mixed Downstream Ambient Concentration			
		Hardness ³ (mg/L) (as CaCO ₃)	CTR Criteria ⁴ (µg/L)	Lead ⁵ (µg/L)	Complies with CTR Criteria
<div>High Flow</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Low Flow</div>	1%	71	2.1	2.1	Yes
	5%	79	2.3	2.3	Yes
	15%	98	3.1	3.0	Yes
	25%	118	3.9	3.8	Yes
	50%	166	6.1	5.5	Yes
	75%	215	8.4	7.3	Yes
	100%	263	11	9.1	Yes

¹ Reasonable worst-case upstream receiving water lead concentration calculated using Equation 1 for chronic criterion at a hardness of 69 mg/L.

² ECA calculated using Equation 4 for chronic criteria.

³ Fully mixed downstream ambient hardness is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent hardness at the applicable effluent fraction.

⁴ Fully mixed downstream ambient criteria are the chronic criteria calculated using Equation 1 at the mixed hardness.

⁵ Fully mixed downstream ambient lead concentration is the mixture of the receiving water and effluent lead concentrations at the applicable effluent fraction.

⁶ The effluent fraction ranges from 1% at the high receiving water flow condition, to 100% at the lowest receiving water flow condition (i.e., effluent dominated).

Based on the procedures discussed above, Table F-8 lists all the CTR hardness-dependent metals and the associated Lead ECA used in this Order.

Table F-8. Summary of ECA Evaluations for CTR Hardness-dependent Metals

CTR Metals	ECA (µg/L, total recoverable) ¹	
	acute	chronic
Copper	35	21
Chromium III	3,800	460
Cadmium	12	5.3
Lead	230	9.1
Nickel	1,100	120
Silver	13	--
Zinc	270	270

¹ Metal criteria rounded to two significant figures in accordance with the CTR.

3. Determining the Need for WQBELs

- a. **Constituents with No Reasonable Potential.** WQBELs are not included in this Order for constituents that do not demonstrate reasonable potential (i.e., constituents were not detected in the effluent or receiving water); however, monitoring for those pollutants is established in this Order as required by the SIP. If the results of effluent monitoring demonstrate reasonable potential, this Order may be reopened and modified by adding an appropriate effluent limitation.

Most constituents with no reasonable potential are not discussed in this Order. However, the following constituents were found to have no reasonable potential after assessment of the data:

i. Aluminum

Aluminum is the third most abundant element in the earth's crust and is ubiquitous in both soils and aquatic sediments. When mobilized in surface waters, aluminum has been shown to be toxic to various fish species. However, the potential for aluminum toxicity in surface waters is directly related to the chemical form of aluminum present, and the chemical form is highly dependent on water quality characteristics that ultimately determine the mechanism of aluminum toxicity. Surface water characteristics, including pH, temperature, colloidal material, fluoride and sulfate concentrations, and total organic carbon, all influence aluminum speciation and its subsequent bioavailability to aquatic life. Calcium [hardness] concentrations in surface water may also reduce aluminum toxicity by competing with monomeric aluminum (Al^{3+}) binding to negatively charged fish gills.

- (a) **WQO.** The Code of Federal Regulations promulgated criteria for priority toxic pollutants for California's surface waters as part of section 131.38 Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California (California Toxics Rule or CTR), including metals criteria. However, aluminum criteria were not promulgated as part of the CTR. Absent numeric aquatic life criteria for aluminum, WQBEL's in the Central Valley Region's NPDES permits are based on the Basin Plans' narrative toxicity objective. The Basin Plans' Policy for Application of Water Quality Objectives requires the Central Valley Water Board to consider, "*on a case-by-case basis, direct evidence of beneficial use impacts, all material and relevant information submitted by the discharger and other interested parties, and relevant numerical criteria and guidelines developed and/or published by other agencies and organizations. In considering such criteria, the Board evaluates whether the specific numerical criteria which*

are available through these sources and through other information supplied to the Board, are relevant and appropriate to the situation at hand and, therefore, should be used in determining compliance with the narrative objective.” Relevant information includes, but is not limited to (1) USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) and subsequent Correction, (2) site-specific conditions of Salt Creek, the receiving water, and (3) site-specific aluminum studies conducted by dischargers within the Central Valley Region. (Basin Plan, p. IV.-17.00; see also, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(vi).)

USEPA recommended the NAWQC aluminum acute criterion at 750 µg/L for protection of aquatic life. USEPA also recommended the NAWQC aluminum chronic criterion at 87 µg/L; however, previous Order R5-2008-0185-01 found that the NAWQC aluminum chronic criterion was not applicable to Salt Creek. In the absence of an applicable chronic aquatic life criterion, the most stringent water quality criterion is the California Department of Public Health Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for aluminum of 200 µg/L.

Order R5-2008-0185-01 contained effluent limitations for aluminum based on the Secondary MCL of 200 µg/L and the U.S. EPA NAWQC acute criterion of 750 µg/L.

- (b) **RPA Results.** For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Aluminum is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar annual average effluent aluminum concentrations.

The maximum annual average effluent concentration for aluminum was 135 µg/L based on 25 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. Effluent aluminum is less than the Secondary MCL. The maximum effluent aluminum concentration was 640 µg/L, which does not exceed the NAWQC acute criterion. In June 2012, the Discharger also conducted filter repairs and on-site training for staff to optimize filter operations in order to eliminate the need for using an aluminum-based coagulant at high dosages for turbidity removal. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance in the receiving water and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of aluminum. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitations for aluminum have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

ii. **Bis (2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 1.8 µg/L for bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed.
- (b) **RPA Results.** Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is a common contaminant of sample containers, sampling apparatus, and analytical equipment, and sources of detected bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate may be from plastics used for sampling or analytical equipment. "Clean techniques" are used to ensure that sample containers, sampling apparatus, and analytical equipment are not sources of the detections for monitoring bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate.

As shown in the table below, bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate was detected but not quantified (i.e., j-flagged) in seven of 11 effluent samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. Upstream receiving water for bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is not available.

Table F-9. Bis (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate Effluent Data Summary

Sample Date	Results (µg/L)	SIP ML (µg/L)	RL (µg/L)
4 October 2011	1.2 J	5	3
4 January 2012	ND	5	3
28 February 2012	ND	5	4
5 March 2012	ND	5	4
2 April 2012	0.56 J	5	3
2 July 2012	1.1 J	5	3
2 October 2012	0.95 J	5	3
7 January 2013	0.14 J	5	3
1 April 2013	2.3 J	5	3
1 July 2013	0.73 J	5	3
2 October 2013	ND	5	3

SIP Section 2.4.2 states that the Minimum Level (ML) is the lowest quantifiable concentration in a sample based on the proper application of all method-based analytical procedures and the absence of any matrix interferences.

- (1) Required MLs are listed in Appendix 4 of the SIP. Where more than one ML is listed in Appendix 4, the Discharger may select any one of the cited analytical methods for compliance determination. The selected ML used for compliance determination is referred to as the Reporting Level (RL).
- (2) An RL can be lower than the ML in Appendix 4 only when the discharger agrees to use an RL that is lower than the ML listed in Appendix 4. The Central Valley Water Board and the Discharger have no agreement to use an RL lower than the listed MLs.
- (3) SIP Section 1.2 requires that the Regional Water Board use all available, valid, relevant, representative data and information, as determined by the Regional Water Board, to implement the SIP. SIP Section 1.2 further states that the Regional Board has the discretion to consider if any data are inappropriate or insufficient for use in implementing the SIP.

- (4) Data reported below the ML indicates the data may not be valid due to possible matrix interferences during the analytical procedure.
- (5) Further, SIP Section 2.4.5 (Compliance Determination) supports the insufficiency of data reported below the ML or RL. In part it states, *“Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation, for reporting and administrative enforcement purposes, if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the RL.”* Thus, if submitted data is below the RL, that data cannot be used to determine compliance with effluent limitations.
- (6) Data reported below the ML is not considered valid data for use in determining reasonable potential. Therefore, in accordance with Section 1.2 of the SIP, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that data reported below the ML is inappropriate and insufficient to be used to determine reasonable potential.
- (7) In implementing its discretion, the Central Valley Water Board is not finding that reasonable potential does not exist; rather the Central Valley Water Board cannot make such a determination given the invalid data. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board will require additional monitoring for such constituents until such time a determination can be made in accordance with the SIP policy.

SIP Appendix 4 cites two MLs for bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate. The lowest applicable ML cited for bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate is 5 µg/L. The Discharger used an analytical method that was more sensitive than the minimum level required by the SIP. The effluent results were all estimated values (i.e., DNQ) or non-detect. Furthermore, the Discharger has indicated that the samples were collected using glass bottles and grab samples, but “clean hands/dirty hands” techniques were not used. Therefore, the submitted effluent data is inappropriate and insufficient to determine reasonable potential under the SIP.

Section 1.3, Step 8 of the SIP allows the Central Valley Water Board to require additional monitoring for a pollutant in place of an effluent limitation if data are unavailable or insufficient. Instead of limitations, additional monitoring has been established for bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate. Should monitoring results indicate that the discharge has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, this Order may be reopened and modified by adding appropriate effluent limitations.

iii. **Bromoform**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 4.3 µg/L for bromoform for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for bromoform based on the CTR criterion.
- (b) **RPA Results.** Bromoform was not detected in the effluent based on 25 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 (minimum MDL 0.14 µg/L, minimum RL 0.5 µg/L). Upstream receiving water data for bromoform is not available. Therefore, bromoform in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-

stream excursion above the CTR human health criterion, and the WQBELs for bromoform have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

iv. **Carbon Tetrachloride**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.25 µg/L for carbon tetrachloride for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed.
- (b) **RPA Results.** Carbon tetrachloride was detected but not quantified in one of 25 effluent samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 at an estimated concentration of 0.36 µg/L. For the estimated sample, collected on 4 December 2012, the Discharger utilized an analytical method with an RL equivalent to the lowest SIP ML of 0.5 µg/L. Upstream receiving water data for carbon tetrachloride is not available.

SIP Section 2.4.2 states that the ML is the lowest quantifiable concentration in a sample based on the proper application of all method-based analytical procedures and the absence of any matrix interferences.

- (1) Required MLs are listed in Appendix 4 of the SIP. Where more than one ML is listed in Appendix 4, the Discharger may select any one of the cited analytical methods for compliance determination. The selected ML used for compliance determination is referred to as the RL.
- (2) SIP Section 1.2 requires that the Regional Water Board use all available, valid, relevant, representative data and information, as determined by the Regional Water Board, to implement the SIP. SIP Section 1.2 further states that the Regional Board has the discretion to consider if any data are inappropriate or insufficient for use in implementing the SIP.
- (3) Data reported below the ML indicates the data may not be valid due to possible matrix interferences during the analytical procedure.
- (4) Further, SIP Section 2.4.5 (Compliance Determination) supports the insufficiency of data reported below the ML or RL. In part it states, *“Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with an effluent limitation, for reporting and administrative enforcement purposes, if the concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample is greater than the effluent limitation and greater than or equal to the RL.”* Thus, if submitted data is below the RL, that data cannot be used to determine compliance with effluent limitations.
- (5) Data reported below the ML is not considered valid data for use in determining reasonable potential. Therefore, in accordance with Section 1.2 of the SIP, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that data reported below the ML is inappropriate and insufficient to be used to determine reasonable potential.

SIP Appendix 4 cites two MLs for carbon tetrachloride. The lowest applicable ML cited for carbon tetrachloride is 0.5 µg/L. The Discharger used an analytical method that was as sensitive as the ML required by the SIP. The 4 December 2012 effluent result was an estimated value

(i.e., DNQ) and is inappropriate to use to determine reasonable potential under the SIP. Carbon tetrachloride was not detected in the effluent in the remaining 24 samples; therefore, carbon tetrachloride in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR human health criterion.

v. **Chlorine, Total Residual**

- (a) **WQO.** USEPA developed NAWQC for protection of freshwater aquatic life for chlorine residual. The recommended 4-day average (chronic) and 1-hour average (acute) criteria for chlorine residual are 0.011 mg/L and 0.019 mg/L, respectively. These criteria are protective of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for chlorine residual based on the NAWQC criteria.
- (b) **RPA Results.** The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Therefore, the discharge does not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective and the effluent limitations for chlorine residual have not been retained. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

vi. **Chlorodibromomethane**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.41 µg/L for chlorodibromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for chlorodibromomethane based on the CTR criterion.
- (b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for chlorodibromomethane was 0.13 µg/L based on 24 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 (minimum MDL 0.13 µg/L, minimum RL 0.5 µg/L). Upstream receiving water data for chlorodibromomethane is not available. Therefore, chlorodibromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR human health criterion, and the WQBELs for chlorodibromomethane have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

vii. **Chloroform**

- (a) **WQO.** DPH has adopted a Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes, which include chloroform, of 80 µg/L, which is protective of the Basin Plan's chemical constituent objective. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for chloroform based on the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes.
- (b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for chloroform was 0.38 µg/L based on 24 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 (minimum MDL 0.048 µg/L, minimum RL 0.5 µg/L). Upstream receiving water data for chloroform is not available. Therefore, chloroform in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes, and

the WQBELs for chloroform have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

viii. **Cyanide**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes maximum 1-hour average and 4-day average criteria of 22 µg/L and 5.2 µg/L, respectively, for cyanide for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for cyanide based on the CTR criterion.
- (b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for cyanide was 5.1 µg/L based on 24 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 (minimum MDL 1 µg/L, minimum RL 5 µg/L). Upstream receiving water data for cyanide is not available. Therefore, cyanide in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR aquatic life criterion, and the WQBELs for cyanide have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

ix. **Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos**

- (a) **WQO.** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) established acute and chronic criteria for diazinon and chlorpyrifos to protect freshwater aquatic life. The acute (1-hour average) and chronic (4-day average) criteria for diazinon are 0.16 µg/L and 0.10 µg/L, respectively. The acute (1-hour average) and chronic (4-day average) criteria for chlorpyrifos are 0.025 µg/L and 0.015 µg/L, respectively. These criteria are protective of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. The Colusa Basin Drain downstream of the discharge has been 303(d) listed for diazinon.
- (b) **RPA Results.** For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Diazinon and chlorpyrifos are not priority pollutants. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for these non-priority pollutant constituents.

Diazinon and chlorpyrifos were detected but not quantified in one of 11 effluent samples at estimated concentrations of 0.068 µg/L and 0.18 µg/L. In order to determine compliance with the receiving water objectives, monitoring must be conducted using analytical methods with RLs below the DFW criteria. As shown in the table below, the Discharger did not use RLs sensitive enough to determine compliance with the DFW criteria.

Table F-10. Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos RPA Summary

Parameter	Units	MEC	RL Used	Recommended RL	DFW Chronic Criteria
Diazinon	µg/L	0.068 J	0.25	0.020	0.10
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	0.18 J	1	0.010	0.015

Because diazinon and chlorpyrifos were not detected above the applicable RLs and the Discharger did not use RLs sensitive enough to determine compliance with the DFW criteria, the Central Valley Water Board is not

establishing effluent limitations for diazinon and chlorpyrifos at this time. Instead, this Order requires quarterly effluent monitoring for diazinon and chlorpyrifos during the first year of the permit term, and annually thereafter if diazinon and chlorpyrifos are not detected in the effluent. If effluent monitoring data indicates that the discharge has reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality objective, or if a TMDL is adopted with a WLA applicable to the discharge from the Facility, then this Order may be reopened to establish effluent limitations.

x. **Dichlorobromomethane**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.56 µg/L for dichlorobromomethane for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for dichlorobromomethane based on the CTR criterion.
- (b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for dichlorobromomethane was 0.2 µg/L based on 25 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013 (minimum MDL 0.067 µg/L, minimum RL 0.5 µg/L). Upstream receiving water data for dichlorobromomethane is not available. Therefore, dichlorobromomethane in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the CTR human health criterion, and the WQBELs for dichlorobromomethane have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

xi. **Iron**

- (a) **WQO.** The Secondary MCL – Consumer Acceptance Limit for iron is 300 µg/L, which is used to implement the Basin Plan’s chemical constituent objective for the protection of municipal and domestic supply. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included an effluent limitation for iron based on the Secondary MCL.
- (b) **RPA Results.** For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Iron is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar annual average effluent iron concentrations.

The maximum annual average effluent concentration for iron was 22 µg/L based on 24 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. The effluent iron is consistently below the Secondary MCL. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge does not have reasonable

potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance in the receiving water and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of iron. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitation for iron has not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

xii. **Manganese**

- (a) **WQO.** The Secondary MCL – Consumer Acceptance Limit for manganese is 50 µg/L, which is used to implement the Basin Plan’s chemical constituent objective for the protection of municipal and domestic supply. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included an effluent limitation for manganese based on the Secondary MCL.
- (b) **RPA Results.** For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Manganese is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used its judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent. The most stringent objective is the Secondary MCL, which is derived from human welfare considerations (e.g., taste, odor, laundry staining), not for toxicity. Secondary MCLs are drinking water standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Title 22 requires compliance with these standards on an annual average basis, when sampling at least quarterly. To be consistent with how compliance with the standards is determined, the RPA was conducted based on the calendar annual average effluent manganese concentrations.

The maximum annual average effluent concentration for manganese was 7.4 µg/L based on 25 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. The effluent manganese is consistently below the Secondary MCL. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance in the receiving water and the Facility is adequately controlling the discharge of manganese. Since the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential, the effluent limitation for manganese has not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

xiii. **Persistent Chlorinated Hydrocarbon Pesticides**

- (a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan requires that no individual pesticides shall be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses; discharges shall not result in pesticide concentrations in bottom sediments or aquatic life that adversely affect beneficial uses; persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides shall not be present in the water column at detectable concentrations, and pesticide concentrations shall not exceed those allowable by applicable antidegradation policies. The Basin Plan pesticide non-detect objective has been interpreted to be equal to the reporting level for purposes of determination of reasonable potential for non-CTR pesticides, which do not have MLs specified in Appendix 4 of the SIP. Several non-CTR pesticides were detected, but not quantified, in the

effluent. The applicable Primary MCLs for these pesticides are summarized below.

Table F-11. Water Quality Criteria for Detected Pesticides

Pollutant	Criteria µg/L
Alachlor	2 (Primary MCL)
Bentazon	18 (Primary MCL)
Picloram	500 (Primary MCL)
Simazine	4 (Primary MCL)

- (b) **RPA Results.** As shown in the following table, several non-CTR pesticides were detected but not quantified at estimated concentrations below the applicable RLs.

Table F-12. Pesticides Detected in the Effluent

Pollutant	Date	Concentration	MDL	RL	Reasonable Potential?
		µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	
Alachlor	4 October 2011	0.088 J	0.062	1	No
Bentazon	4 October 2011	0.36 J	0.3	2	No
Picloram	4 October 2011	0.32 J	0.19	1	No
Simazine	4 October 2011	0.16 J	0.12	1	No

Data reported below the laboratory RL indicates the data may not be valid due to possible matrix interferences during the analytical procedure. Due to these samples having detectable values and the detected values being “not quantifiable” by the laboratory performing the analysis, the Central Valley Water Board finds that these non-CTR pesticides in the discharge do not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan’s objective.

xiv. **Settleable Solids**

- (a) **WQO.** For inland surface waters, the Basin Plan states that “[w]ater shall not contain substances in concentrations that result in the deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.” Order R5-2008-0185-01 established an average monthly effluent limitation (AMEL) of 0.1 ml/L and maximum daily effluent limitation (MDEL) of 0.2 ml/L for settleable solids to implement the narrative settleable solids objective.
- (b) **RPA Results.** Settleable solids were not detected in the effluent based on 97 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. Therefore, the discharge does not have reasonable potential for settleable solids and the WQBELs for settleable solids have not been retained in this Order. Removal of these effluent limitations is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3 of the Fact Sheet).

xv. **2,3,7,8-TCDD**

- (a) **WQO.** The CTR includes a criterion of 0.013 pg/L for 2,3,7,8-TCDD for the protection of human health for waters from which both water and organisms are consumed.
- (b) **RPA Results.** 2,3,7,8-TCDD was detected in the effluent at a concentration of 17.9 pg/L (reporting level 10 pg/L) on 2 October 2012.

The Discharger collected an additional sample on 31 October 2011 in which 2,3,7,8-TCDD was not detected. Per the laboratory report, "*The TCDD was recollected 10/31/12 and reanalyzed with a result of ND. Since TCDD has historically been ND, and the reanalysis was ND the conclusion is that the original result was a false positive and should be disregarded. The reanalysis result of ND should be reported for the annual priority pollutant result.*" SIP Section 1.2 states that the Central Valley Water Board has the discretion to consider if any data are inappropriate or insufficient for use in implementing the SIP. In accordance with Section 1.2 of the SIP, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that the 2 October 2012 sample is a false positive, per the laboratory report, and is inappropriate and insufficient to be used in the RPA. 2,3,7,8-TCDD was not detected in the effluent in a subsequent sample collected on 2 October 2013. Therefore, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion and effluent limitations are not included in this Order. This Order requires monitoring for 2,3,7,8-TCDD quarterly during the third year of the permit term as part of the Effluent and Receiving Water Characterization required in Attachment E, Section IX.D.

xvi. **Total Trihalomethanes**

- (a) **WQO.** DPH has adopted a Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes of 80 µg/L, which is protective of the Basin Plan's chemical constituent objective. Total trihalomethanes include bromoform, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, and dichlorobromomethane. Order R5-2008-0185-01 established an effluent limitation for total trihalomethanes based on the Primary MCL.
 - (b) **RPA Results.** Total trihalomethanes are chlorine disinfection byproducts. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Bromoform was not detected in the effluent and the MECs for chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, and dichlorobromomethane were 0.13 µg/L, 0.38 µg/L, and 0.2 µg/L, respectively, based on monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013, following the conversion to UV disinfection. The maximum observed total trihalomethanes concentration for the effluent was 0.38 µg/L based on 23 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. Upstream receiving water data for total trihalomethanes is not available. Therefore, total trihalomethanes in the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL, and the WQBEL for total trihalomethanes has not been retained in this Order. Removal of this effluent limitation is in accordance with federal anti-backsliding regulations (see section IV.D.3. of the Fact Sheet).
- b. **Constituents with Reasonable Potential.** The Central Valley Water Board finds that the discharge has a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above a water quality standard for ammonia, BOD₅, mercury, nitrate plus nitrite, pH, salinity, total coliform organisms, and TSS. WQBELs for these constituents are included in this Order. A summary of the RPA is provided in Attachment G, and a detailed discussion of the RPA for each constituent is provided below.

i. **Ammonia**

- (a) **WQO.** In August 2013, U.S. EPA updated its National Ambient Water Quality Criteria (NAWQC) for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia¹ The 2013 NAWQC for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia recommends acute (1-hour average; criteria maximum concentration or CMC) and chronic (30-day average; criteria continuous concentration or CCC) standards based on pH and temperature. U.S. EPA also recommends that no 4-day average concentration should exceed 2.5 times the 30-day CCC (not to be exceeded more than once in 3 years on average). The 2013 NAWQC for ammonia takes into account data for several sensitive freshwater mussel species and non-pulmonate snails that had not previously been tested.

U.S. EPA found that as pH and temperature increased, both the acute and chronic toxicity of ammonia increased for invertebrates. However, U.S. EPA found that only pH significantly influenced acute and chronic ammonia toxicity for fish. Therefore, the 2013 acute NAWQC for ammonia is primarily based on the ammonia effects on species in the genus *Oncorhynchus* (salmonids) at lower temperatures and invertebrates at higher temperatures. However, due to the significant sensitivity unionid mussels have to the chronic toxicity effects of ammonia, the 2013 chronic NAWQC for ammonia is determined primarily by the effects of mussels.

The 2013 ammonia NAWQC document states that “*unionid mussel species are not prevalent in some waters, such as the arid west.*” The 2013 ammonia NAWQC also states that, “*In the case of ammonia, where a state demonstrates that mussels are not present on a site-specific basis, the recalculation procedure may be used to remove the mussel species from the national criteria dataset to better represent the species present at the site.*” The 2013 NAWQC document, therefore, includes a re-calculation procedure for acute and chronic criteria for waters where mussels are not present. The 2013 ammonia NAWQC also provides criteria for waters where *Oncorhynchus* species are not present and where protection of early life stages of fish genera is unnecessary.

A report prepared by The Nature Conservancy, *Sensitive Freshwater Mussel Surveys in the Pacific Southwest Region: Assessment of Conservation Status*, demonstrates the results of a strategic mussel study and survey conducted during 2008-2009. Review of the report did not contain any survey information for Salt Creek in the vicinity of the discharge. The Central Valley Water Board is currently in the process of determining the best way to evaluate receiving waters within the Central Valley for the presence of mussels. Therefore, since the Central Valley Water Board is not aware of any documentation recording the presence of mussels in Salt Creek, the site-specific ammonia criteria for waters where mussels are not present were used.

An acute criterion was calculated for each day when paired temperature data and pH were measured using downstream receiving water data for temperature and pH. The minimum observed acute criterion based on the

¹ *Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia – Freshwater*, published August 2013 [EPA 822-R-13-001]

paired data was established as the applicable acute criterion, or 1-hour CMC. The most stringent acute criterion was 1.77 mg/L (as N).

A chronic criterion was calculated for each day when paired temperature data and pH were measured using downstream receiving water data for temperature and pH. Rolling 30-day average criteria were calculated from upstream receiving water data using the criteria calculated for each day and the minimum observed 30-day average criterion was established as the applicable 30-day average chronic criterion, or 30-day CCC. The most stringent 30-day CCC was 1.93 mg/L (as N). The 4-day average concentration is derived in accordance with the U.S. EPA criterion as 2.5 times the 30-day CCC. Based on the 30-day CCC of 1.93 mg/L (as N), the 4-day average concentration that should not be exceeded is 4.83 mg/L.

- (b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, without treatment, would be harmful to fish and would violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective if discharged to the receiving water. Reasonable potential therefore exists and effluent limitations are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Ammonia is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available...A permitting authority might also determine that WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs discharging to contact recreational waters).*" USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" With regard to POTWs, USEPA recommends that, "*POTWs should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems.*" (TSD, p. 50)

Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrite and nitrite to nitrate. Denitrification is a process that converts nitrate to nitrite or nitric oxide and then to nitrous oxide or nitrogen gas, which is then released to the atmosphere. The Discharger currently uses nitrification to remove ammonia from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete nitrification may result in the discharge of ammonia to the receiving stream. Ammonia is known to cause toxicity to aquatic organisms in surface waters. Discharges of ammonia in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life would violate the Basin Plan narrative toxicity objective. Although the Discharger nitrifies the discharge, inadequate or incomplete nitrification creates the potential for ammonia to be discharged and provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the NAWQC. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for ammonia and WQBELs are required.

- (c) **WQBELs.** The Central Valley Water Board calculates WQBELs in accordance with SIP procedures for non-CTR constituents, and ammonia is a non-CTR constituent. The SIP procedure assumes a 4-day averaging period for calculating the long-term average discharge condition (LTA). However, USEPA recommends modifying the procedure for calculating permit limits for ammonia using a 30-day averaging period for the calculation of the LTA corresponding to the 30-day CCC. Therefore, while the LTAs corresponding to the acute and 4-day chronic criteria were calculated according to SIP procedures, the LTA corresponding to the 30-day CCC was calculated assuming a 30-day averaging period. The lowest LTA representing the acute, 4-day CCC, and 30-day CCC is then selected for deriving the AMEL and the MDEL. The remainder of the WQBEL calculation for ammonia was performed according to the SIP procedures. This Order contains a final AMEL and MDEL for ammonia of 0.9 mg/L and 1.8 mg/L, respectively, based on the NAWQC.
- (d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** The Facility is designed to provide nitrification of the discharge. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

ii. **Mercury**

- (a) **WQO.** The current NAWQC for protection of freshwater aquatic life, continuous concentration, for mercury is 0.77 µg/L (30-day average, chronic criteria). The CTR contains a human health criterion (based on a threshold dose level causing neurological effects in infants) of 0.050 µg/L for waters from which both water and aquatic organisms are consumed. Both values are controversial and subject to change. In 40 CFR Part 131, USEPA acknowledges that the human health criteria may not be protective of some aquatic or endangered species and that “...*more stringent mercury limits may be determined and implemented through use of the State’s narrative criterion.*” In the CTR, USEPA reserved the mercury criteria for freshwater and aquatic life and may adopt new criteria at a later date.

- (b) **RPA Results.** The MEC for mercury was 0.015 µg/L based on 24 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013. Upstream receiving water data for mercury is not available. Mercury bioaccumulates in fish tissue and, therefore, the discharge of mercury to the receiving water may contribute to exceedances of the narrative toxicity objective and impact beneficial uses. The Colusa Basin Drain has been listed as an impaired water body pursuant to CWA section 303(d) because of mercury, and a TMDL is under development for the Colusa Basin Drain downstream of the Facility. However, a TMDL is not planned for Salt Creek. Nevertheless, the discharge must not cause or contribute to an increase mercury levels.
- (c) **WQBELs.** This Order contains a performance-based mass effluent limitation of 0.0168 lbs/year for mercury for the effluent discharged to the receiving water. This limitation is based on maintaining the mercury loading at the current level until a TMDL can be established or USEPA develops mercury standards that are protective of human health. Previous Order R5-2008-0185-01 contained a monthly performance based effluent limit of 0.0014 lbs/month. As previously discussed, the facility was upgraded with a cloth-media filtration system to provide tertiary-level treatment of the municipal wastewater. Therefore this Order converts the monthly performance-based mass effluent limitation in Order R5-2008-0185-01 to an annual limitation, as follows:
- $$0.0014 \text{ lbs/month} * 12 \text{ months/year} = 0.0168 \text{ lbs/year}$$
- If a waste load allocation is developed for this discharge or USEPA develops new water quality standards for mercury, this permit may be reopened and the effluent limitations adjusted.
- (d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows the Facility can meet this WQBEL.

iii. **Nitrate and Nitrite**

- (a) **WQO.** DPH has adopted Primary MCLs for the protection of human health for nitrite and nitrate that are equal to 1 mg/L and 10 mg/L (measured as nitrogen), respectively. DPH has also adopted a primary MCL of 10 mg/L for the sum of nitrate and nitrite, measured as nitrogen. USEPA has developed a primary MCL and an MCL goal of 1 mg/L for nitrite (as nitrogen). For nitrate, USEPA has developed Drinking Water Standards (10 mg/L as Primary MCL) and NAWQC for protection of human health (10 mg/L for non-cancer health effects).
- (b) **RPA Results.** The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Untreated domestic wastewater contains ammonia in concentrations that, if untreated, will be harmful to fish and will violate the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. This Order, therefore, requires removal of ammonia (i.e., nitrification). Nitrification is a biological process that converts ammonia to nitrate and nitrite, and will result in effluent nitrate concentrations above the Primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite. Nitrate concentrations in a drinking water supply above the Primary MCL threatens the health of human fetuses and newborn babies by reducing the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood (methemoglobinemia).

Reasonable potential for nitrate and nitrite therefore exists and WQBELs are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Nitrate and nitrite are not priority pollutants. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available...A permitting authority might also determine that WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs discharging to contact recreational waters).*" USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" With regard to POTWS, USEPA recommends that, "*POTWs should also be characterized for the possibility of chlorine and ammonia problems.*" (TSD, p. 50)

The concentration of nitrogen in raw domestic wastewater is sufficiently high that the resultant treated wastewater has a reasonable potential to exceed or threaten to exceed the Primary MCL for nitrate plus nitrite unless the wastewater is treated for nitrogen removal, and therefore an effluent limit for nitrate plus nitrite is required. Denitrification is a process that converts nitrate to nitrite or nitric oxide and then to nitrous oxide or nitrogen gas, which is then released to the atmosphere. The Discharger currently uses nitrification/denitrification to remove ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate from the waste stream. Inadequate or incomplete denitrification may result in the discharge of nitrate and/or nitrite to the receiving stream. Discharges of nitrate plus nitrite in concentrations that exceed the Primary MCL would violate the Basin Plan narrative chemical constituents objective. Although the Discharger denitrifies the discharge, inadequate or incomplete denitrification creates the potential for nitrate and nitrite to be discharged and provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Primary MCL. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the

discharge has reasonable potential for nitrate plus nitrite and WQBELs are required.

- (c) **WQBELs.** This Order contains a final AMEL for nitrate plus nitrite of 10 mg/L (total as N), based on the Primary MCL. This effluent limitation replaces the nitrate effluent limitation in Order R5-2008-0185-01. This effluent limitation is included in this Order to assure the treatment process adequately nitrifies and denitrifies the waste stream to protect the beneficial use of municipal and domestic supply.
- (d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** Analysis of the effluent data shows that the MEC of 20 mg/L for nitrate is greater than the applicable WQBEL. Based on the sample results for the effluent, the limitation appears to put the Discharger in immediate non-compliance. New or modified control measures may be necessary in order to comply with the effluent limitation, and the new or modified control measures cannot be designed, installed, and put into operation within 30 calendar days. Furthermore, the effluent limitation for nitrate plus nitrite is a new regulatory requirement within this permit, which becomes applicable to the waste discharge with the adoption of this Order, which was adopted after 1 July 2000. Therefore, a compliance time schedule for compliance with the nitrate plus nitrite effluent limitation is established in Time Schedule Order (TSO) No. R5-2014-XXXX in accordance with Water Code section 133300, that requires preparation and implementation of a pollution prevention plan in compliance with Water Code section 13263.3.

iv. **Pathogens**

- (a) **WQO.** DPH has developed reclamation criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22), for the reuse of wastewater. Title 22 requires that for spray irrigation of food crops, parks, playgrounds, schoolyards, and other areas of similar public access, wastewater be adequately disinfected, oxidized, coagulated, clarified, and filtered, and that the effluent total coliform levels not exceed 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median; 23 MPN/100 mL, not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period; and 240 MPN/100 mL, at any time.

Title 22 also requires that recycled water used as a source of water supply for non-restricted recreational impoundments be disinfected tertiary recycled water that has been subjected to conventional treatment. A non-restricted recreational impoundment is defined as “...an impoundment of recycled water, in which no limitations are imposed on body-contact water recreational activities.” Title 22 is not directly applicable to surface waters; however, the Central Valley Water Board finds that it is appropriate to apply an equivalent level of treatment to that required by the DPH’s reclamation criteria because the receiving water is used for irrigation of agricultural land and for contact recreation purposes. The stringent disinfection criteria of Title 22 are appropriate since the undiluted effluent may be used for the irrigation of food crops and/or for body-contact water recreation. Coliform organisms are intended as an indicator of the effectiveness of the entire treatment train and the effectiveness of removing other pathogens.

- (b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently contains human pathogens that threaten human health and life, and constitute a

threatened pollution and nuisance under CWC Section 13050 if discharged untreated to the receiving water. Reasonable potential for pathogens therefore exists and WQBELs are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, "*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.*" For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Pathogens are not priority pollutants. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available...A permitting authority might also determine that WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs discharging to contact recreational waters).*" USEPA's TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, "*When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.*" (TSD, p. 50)

The beneficial uses of Salt Creek include municipal and domestic supply, water contact recreation, and agricultural irrigation supply, and there is, at times, less than 20:1 dilution. To protect these beneficial uses, the Central Valley Water Board finds that the wastewater must be disinfected and adequately treated to prevent disease. Although the Discharger provides disinfection, inadequate or incomplete disinfection creates the potential for pathogens to be discharged. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds the discharge has reasonable potential for pathogens and WQBELs are required.

- (c) **WQBELs.** In accordance with the requirements of Title 22, this Order includes effluent limitations for total coliform organisms of 2.2 MPN/100 mL as a 7-day median; 23 MPN/100 mL, not to be exceeded more than once in a 30-day period; and 240 MPN/100 mL as an instantaneous maximum.

The tertiary treatment process, or equivalent, is capable of reliably treating wastewater to a turbidity level of 2 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) as a daily average. Failure of the filtration system such that virus removal is

impaired would normally result in increased particles in the effluent, which result in higher effluent turbidity. Turbidity has a major advantage for monitoring filter performance. Coliform testing, by comparison, is not conducted continuously and requires several hours, to days, to identify high coliform concentrations. Therefore, to ensure compliance with the DPH recommended Title 22 disinfection criteria, weekly average specifications are impracticable for turbidity. This Order includes operational specifications for turbidity of 2 NTU as a daily average; 5 NTU, not to be exceeded more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period; and 10 NTU as an instantaneous maximum.

This Order contains effluent limitations for BOD₅, total coliform organisms, and TSS and requires a tertiary level of treatment, or equivalent, necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. The Central Valley Water Board has previously considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in establishing these requirements.

Final WQBELs for BOD₅ and TSS are based on the technical capability of the tertiary process, which is necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water. BOD₅ is a measure of the amount of oxygen used in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter. The tertiary treatment standards for BOD₅ and TSS are indicators of the effectiveness of the tertiary treatment process. The principal design parameter for wastewater treatment plants is the daily BOD₅ and TSS loading rates and the corresponding removal rate of the system. The application of tertiary treatment processes results in the ability to achieve lower levels for BOD₅ and TSS than the secondary standards currently prescribed. Therefore, this Order requires AMELs for BOD₅ and TSS of 10 mg/L, which is technically based on the capability of a tertiary system. In addition to the average weekly and average monthly effluent limitations, a daily maximum effluent limitation for BOD₅ and TSS is included in the Order to ensure that the treatment works are not organically overloaded and operate in accordance with design capabilities.

- (d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** The Facility possesses a filtration and UV disinfection system which was designed to achieve Title 22 criteria. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

- i. **pH**

- (a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan includes a water quality objective for surface waters (except for Goose Lake) that the “...*pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5.*”
- (b) **RPA Results.** Raw domestic wastewater inherently has variable pH. Additionally, some wastewater treatment processes can increase or decrease wastewater pH which if not properly controlled, would violate the Basin Plan’s numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, reasonable potential exists for pH and WQBELs are required.

Federal regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) requires that, “*Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable*

potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. pH is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not restricted to one particular RPA method. Due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA for this non-priority pollutant constituent.

USEPA’s September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer’s Manual, page 6-30, states, “State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available...A permitting authority might also determine that WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs discharging to contact recreational waters).” USEPA’s TSD also recommends that factors other than effluent data should be considered in the RPA, “When determining whether or not a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion of a numeric or narrative water quality criterion for individual toxicants or for toxicity, the regulatory authority can use a variety of factors and information where facility-specific effluent monitoring data are unavailable. These factors also should be considered with available effluent monitoring data.” (TSD, p. 50)

The Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater. Based on 299 samples collected between October 2011 and October 2013, the maximum pH reported was 8.1 and the minimum was 6.4. The effluent was below the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation once on 3 December 2012. Although the Discharger has proper pH controls in place, the pH for the Facility’s influent varies due to the nature of municipal sewage, which provides the basis for the discharge to have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the Basin Plan’s numeric objective for pH in the receiving water. Therefore, WQBELs for pH are required in this Order.

- (c) **WQBELs.** Effluent limitations for pH of 6.5 as an instantaneous minimum and 8.5 as an instantaneous maximum are included in this Order based on protection of the Basin Plan objectives for pH.
- (d) **Plant Performance and Attainability.** The effluent pH was below the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation only once and did not exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation based on 299 samples. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with these effluent limitations is feasible.

ii. **Salinity**

- (a) **WQO.** The Basin Plan contains a chemical constituent objective that incorporates state MCLs, contains a narrative objective, and contains numeric water quality objectives for certain specified water bodies for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, sulfate, and chloride. The USEPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Chloride recommends acute

and chronic criteria for the protection of aquatic life. There are no USEPA water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic life for electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, and sulfate. Additionally, there are no USEPA numeric water quality criteria for the protection of agricultural, livestock, and industrial uses. Numeric values for the protection of these uses are typically based on site specific conditions and evaluations to determine the appropriate constituent threshold necessary to interpret the narrative chemical constituent Basin Plan objective. The Central Valley Water Board must determine the applicable numeric limit to implement the narrative objective for the protection of agricultural supply. The Central Valley Water Board is currently implementing the CV-SALTS initiative to develop a Basin Plan Amendment that will establish a salt and nitrate Management Plan for the Central Valley. Through this effort the Basin Plan will be amended to define how the narrative water quality objective is to be interpreted for the protection of agricultural use. All studies conducted through this Order to establish an agricultural limit to implement the narrative objective will be reviewed by and consistent with the efforts currently underway by CV-SALTS.

Table F-13. Salinity Water Quality Criteria/Objectives

Parameter	Agricultural WQ Objective ¹	Secondary MCL ²	USEPA NAWQC	Effluent	
				Average ³	Maximum
EC (µmhos/cm)	Varies	900; 1,600; 2,200	N/A	1,838	2,110
TDS (mg/L)	Varies	500; 1,000; 1,500	N/A	1,133	1,260
Sulfate (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chloride (mg/L)	Varies	250, 500, 600	860 1-hr 230 4-day	230	230

N/A – Not Available

¹ Narrative chemical constituent objective of the Basin Plan. Procedures for establishing the applicable numeric limitation to implement the narrative objective can be found in the Policy for Application of Water Quality, Chapter IV, Section 8 of the Basin Plan. However, the Basin Plan does not require improvement over naturally occurring background concentrations. In cases where the natural background concentration of a particular constituent exceeds an applicable water quality objective, the natural background concentration will be considered to comply with the objective.

² The Secondary MCLs are stated as a recommended level, upper level, and a short-term maximum level.

³ Maximum calendar annual average.

- (1) **Chloride.** The Secondary MCL for chloride is 250 mg/L, as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum.
- (2) **Electrical Conductivity.** The Secondary MCL for electrical conductivity is 900 µmhos/cm as a recommended level, 1600 µmhos/cm as an upper level, and 2200 µmhos/cm as a short-term maximum.
- (3) **Sulfate.** The Secondary MCL for sulfate is 250 mg/L as a recommended level, 500 mg/L as an upper level, and 600 mg/L as a short-term maximum.

- (4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** The Secondary MCL for total dissolved solids is 500 mg/L as a recommended level, 1000 mg/L as an upper level, and 1500 mg/L as a short-term maximum.
- (b) **RPA Results**
 - (1) **Chloride.** Chloride was detected in the effluent at a concentration of 230 mg/L based on one sample collected on 2 October 2012. These levels do not exceed the Secondary MCL. Upstream receiving water data for chloride is not available.
 - (2) **Electrical Conductivity.** A review of the Discharger's monitoring reports shows a maximum calendar year annual average effluent electrical conductivity of 1,838 μ mhos/cm, with a range from 1,498 μ mhos/cm to 2,110 μ mhos/cm. These levels exceed the Secondary MCL. The maximum calendar year annual average upstream receiving water electrical conductivity concentration was 620 μ mhos/cm.
 - (3) **Sulfate.** Effluent and receiving water data for sulfate is not available.
 - (4) **Total Dissolved Solids.** The maximum calendar year annual average total dissolved solids effluent concentration was 1,133 mg/L with concentrations ranging from 904 mg/L to 1,260 mg/L. These levels exceed the Secondary MCL. Upstream receiving water data for total dissolved solids is not available.
- (c) **WQBELs.** Consistent with Order R5-2008-0185-01, this Order includes a performance-based annual average effluent limitation of 2,300 μ mhos/cm. In order to ensure that the Discharger will continue to control the discharge of salinity, this Order includes a requirement to update and implement their September 2009 Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan. This Order also requires water supply monitoring to evaluate the relative contribution of salinity from the source water to the effluent.
- (d) **RPA Results. Plant Performance and Attainability.** The maximum observed annual average effluent electrical conductivity concentration of 1,838 μ mhos/cm is below the effluent limitation. The Central Valley Water Board concludes, therefore, that immediate compliance with this effluent limitation is feasible.

4. WQBEL Calculations

- a. This Order includes WQBELs for ammonia, BOD₅, electrical conductivity, mercury, nitrate plus nitrite, pH, total coliform organisms, and TSS. The general methodology for calculating WQBELs based on the different criteria/objectives is described in subsections IV.C.4.b through e, below. See Attachment H for the WQBEL calculations.
- b. **Effluent Concentration Allowance.** For each water quality criterion/objective, the ECA is calculated using the following steady-state mass balance equation from Section 1.4 of the SIP:

$$ECA = C + D(C - B) \text{ where } C > B, \text{ and}$$
$$ECA = C \text{ where } C \leq B$$

where:

ECA = effluent concentration allowance
D = dilution credit
C = the priority pollutant criterion/objective
B = the ambient background concentration.

According to the SIP, the ambient background concentration (B) in the equation above shall be the observed maximum with the exception that an ECA calculated from a priority pollutant criterion/objective that is intended to protect human health from carcinogenic effects shall use the arithmetic mean concentration of the ambient background samples. For ECAs based on MCLs, which implement the Basin Plan's chemical constituents objective and are applied as annual averages, an arithmetic mean is also used for B due to the long-term basis of the criteria.

- c. **Basin Plan Objectives and MCLs.** For WQBELs based on site-specific numeric Basin Plan objectives or MCLs, the effluent limitations are applied directly as the ECA as either an MDEL, AMEL, or average annual effluent limitations, depending on the averaging period of the objective.
- d. **Aquatic Toxicity Criteria.** WQBELs based on acute and chronic aquatic toxicity criteria are calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The ECAs are converted to equivalent long-term averages (i.e., LTA_{acute} and $LTA_{chronic}$) using statistical multipliers and the lowest LTA is used to calculate the AMEL and MDEL using additional statistical multipliers.
- e. **Human Health Criteria.** WQBELs based on human health criteria, are also calculated in accordance with Section 1.4 of the SIP. The ECAs are set equal to the AMEL and a statistical multiplier was used to calculate the MDEL.

$$\begin{aligned}
 AMEL &= mult_{AMEL} \left[\min \left(\overbrace{M_A ECA_{acute}^{LTA_{acute}}} \right), M_C ECA_{chronic} \right] \\
 MDEL &= mult_{MDEL} \left[\min \left(M_A ECA_{acute}, \underbrace{M_C ECA_{chronic}}_{LTA_{chronic}} \right) \right] \\
 MDEL_{HH} &= \left(\frac{mult_{MDEL}}{mult_{AMEL}} \right) AMEL_{HH}
 \end{aligned}$$

where:

$mult_{AMEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to AMEL
 $mult_{MDEL}$ = statistical multiplier converting minimum LTA to MDEL
 M_A = statistical multiplier converting acute ECA to LTA_{acute}
 M_C = statistical multiplier converting chronic ECA to $LTA_{chronic}$

**Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001**

Table F-14. Summary of Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Conventional Pollutants						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	4042	63	83	--	--
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	4042	63	83	--	--
Priority Pollutants						
Mercury, Total Recoverable	lbs/year	0.0168 ²	--	--	--	--
Non-Conventional Pollutants						
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	0.9	--	1.8	--	--
	lbs/day ¹	3.8	--	7.5	--	--
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	2,300 ³				
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	--	--	--	--
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	2.2 ⁴	23 ⁵	--	240

¹ Based on an average dry weather flow of 0.5 MGD.

² The total annual mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.0168 lbs/year.

³ Applied as an annual average effluent limitation.

⁴ Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.

⁵ Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

For compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, this Order requires the Discharger to conduct whole effluent toxicity testing for acute and chronic toxicity, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E section V.). This Order also contains effluent limitations for acute toxicity and requires the Discharger to implement best management practices to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity.

- a. **Acute Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00) The Basin Plan also states that, "...effluent limits based upon acute biotoxicity tests of effluents will be prescribed where appropriate..."

For priority pollutants, the SIP dictates the procedures for conducting the RPA. Acute toxicity is not a priority pollutant. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is

not restricted to one particular RPA method. Therefore, due to the site-specific conditions of the discharge, the Central Valley Water Board has used professional judgment in determining the appropriate method for conducting the RPA. USEPA's September 2010 NPDES Permit Writer's Manual, page 6-30, states, "*State implementation procedures might allow, or even require, a permit writer to determine reasonable potential through a qualitative assessment process without using available facility-specific effluent monitoring data or when such data are not available...A permitting authority might also determine that WQBELs are required for specific pollutants for all facilities that exhibit certain operational or discharge characteristics (e.g., WQBELs for pathogens in all permits for POTWs discharging to contact recreational waters).*" Although the discharge has been consistently in compliance with the acute effluent limitations, the Facility is a POTW that treats domestic wastewater containing ammonia and other acutely toxic pollutants. Acute toxicity effluent limits are required to ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

USEPA Region 9 provided guidance for the development of acute toxicity effluent limitations in the absence of numeric water quality objectives for toxicity in its document titled "Guidance for NPDES Permit Issuance", dated February 1994. In section B.2. "Toxicity Requirements" (pgs. 14-15) it states that, "*In the absence of specific numeric water quality objectives for acute and chronic toxicity, the narrative criterion 'no toxics in toxic amounts' applies. Achievement of the narrative criterion, as applied herein, means that ambient waters shall not demonstrate for acute toxicity: 1) less than 90% survival, 50% of the time, based on the monthly median, or 2) less than 70% survival, 10% of the time, based on any monthly median. For chronic toxicity, ambient waters shall not demonstrate a test result of greater than 1 TUc.*" Accordingly, effluent limitations for acute toxicity have been included in this Order as follows:

Acute Toxicity. Survival of aquatic organisms in 96-hour bioassays of undiluted waste shall be no less than:

Minimum for any one bioassay----- 70%
Median for any three consecutive bioassays ----- 90%

- b. **Chronic Aquatic Toxicity.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, "*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*" (Basin Plan at page III-8.00.) As shown in the table below, the effluent exhibited chronic toxicity to *Selenastrum capricornutum* growth once in October 2012, but did not exhibit toxicity in the accelerated monitoring tests or in the remaining 3-species chronic toxicity tests. Therefore, based on chronic WET testing performed by the Discharger from October 2011 to October 2013, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

Table F-15. Whole Effluent Chronic Toxicity Testing Results

Date	Fathead Minnow		Water Flea		Green Algae
	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>		<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>		<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i>
	Survival (TUc)	Growth (TUc)	Survival (TUc)	Reproduction (TUc)	Growth (TUc)
25 October 2011	1	1	1	1	1

Date	Fathead Minnow		Water Flea		Green Algae
	<i>Pimephales promelas</i> Survival (TUc)	Growth (TUc)	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i> Survival (TUc)	Reproduction (TUc)	<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i> Growth (TUc)
15 March 2012	1	1	1	1	1
23 October 2012	1	1	1	1	4
30 November 2012	--	--	--	--	1
7 December 2012	--	--	--	--	1
14 December 2012	--	--	--	--	1
18 December 2012	--	--	--	--	1
5 March 2013	1	1	1	1	1

¹ Receiving water did not meet EPA standards.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Order requires semi-annual chronic WET monitoring for demonstration of compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. The provision also includes a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, requirements for accelerated monitoring, and requirements for Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) initiation if toxicity is demonstrated.

To ensure compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective, the Discharger is required to conduct chronic WET testing, as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E, section V). Furthermore, the Special Provision contained at VI.C.2.a of this Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify and implement corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. If the discharge demonstrates toxicity exceeding the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, the Discharger is required to initiate a TRE in accordance with an approved TRE workplan. The numeric toxicity monitoring trigger is not an effluent limitation; it is the toxicity threshold at which the Discharger is required to perform accelerated chronic toxicity monitoring, as well as, the threshold to initiate a TRE if effluent toxicity has been demonstrated.

D. Final Effluent Limitation Considerations

1. Mass-based Effluent Limitations

40 CFR 122.45(f)(1) requires effluent limitations be expressed in terms of mass, with some exceptions, and 40 CFR 122.45(f)(2) allows pollutants that are limited in terms of mass to additionally be limited in terms of other units of measurement. This Order includes effluent limitations expressed in terms of mass and concentration. In addition, pursuant to the exceptions to mass limitations provided in 40 CFR 122.45(f)(1), some effluent limitations are not expressed in terms of mass, such as pH and temperature, and when the applicable standards are expressed in terms of concentration (e.g., CTR criteria and MCLs) and mass limitations are not necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving water.

Mass-based effluent limitations have been established in this Order for ammonia, BOD₅, and TSS because they are oxygen demanding substances. A mass-based effluent limitations for mercury has been established in the Order because mercury is a bio-accumulative substance. Except for the pollutants listed above, mass-based effluent limitations are not included in this Order for pollutant parameters for which effluent limitations are based on water quality objectives and criteria that are concentration-based.

Mass-based effluent limitations were calculated based upon the design flow (average dry weather flow) permitted in section IV.A.1.e of this Order.

2. Averaging Periods for Effluent Limitations

40 CFR 122.45 (d) requires average weekly and average monthly discharge limitations for POTWs unless impracticable. However, for toxic pollutants and pollutant parameters in water quality permitting, USEPA recommends the use of an MDEL in lieu of average weekly effluent limitations (AWELs) for two reasons. *“First, the basis for the 7-day average for POTWs derives from the secondary treatment requirements. This basis is not related to the need for assuring achievement of water quality standards. Second, a 7-day average, which could comprise up to seven or more daily samples, could average out peak toxic concentrations and therefore the discharge’s potential for causing acute toxic effects would be missed.”* (TSD, pg. 96) This Order uses MDELs in lieu of AWELs for ammonia as recommended by the TSD for the achievement of water quality standards and for the protection of the beneficial uses of the receiving stream. Furthermore, for BOD₅, pH, and TSS, weekly average effluent limitations have been replaced or supplemented with effluent limitations utilizing shorter averaging periods. The rationale for using shorter averaging periods for these constituents is discussed in section IV.C.3 of this Fact Sheet.

3. Satisfaction of Anti-Backsliding Requirements

The Clean Water Act specifies that a revised permit may not include effluent limitations that are less stringent than the previous permit unless a less stringent limitation is justified based on exceptions to the anti-backsliding provisions contained in Clean Water Act sections 402(o) or 303(d)(4), or, where applicable, 40 CFR 122.44(l).

The effluent limitations in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous Order R5-2008-0185-01, with the exception of effluent limitations for aluminum, ammonia, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes. The effluent limitations for ammonia are less stringent than those in Order R5-2008-0185-01. This relaxation of the ammonia effluent limitations is consistent with the anti-backsliding requirements of the CWA and federal regulations.

The Facility was upgraded during the term of Order R5-2008-0185-01 with an aeration basin, secondary clarifier, cloth filters, UV disinfection, re-aeration basin. Effluent monitoring data obtained since the new Facility indicated that the discharge does not cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality standards in Salt Creek for aluminum, chlorodibromomethane, bromoform, chloroform, cyanide, total trihalomethanes, settleable solids, total chlorine residual, iron, and manganese. Removal of the effluent limitations for these constituents is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.

- a. **CWA section 402(o)(1) and 303(d)(4).** CWA section 402(o)(1) prohibits the establishment of less stringent WQBELs *“except in compliance with Section 303(d)(4).”* CWA section 303(d)(4) has two parts: paragraph (A) which applies to nonattainment waters and paragraph (B) which applies to attainment waters.
 - i. For waters where standards are not attained, CWA section 304(d)(4)(A) specifies that any effluent limit based on a TMDL or other WLA may be revised only if the cumulative effect of all such revised effluent limits based on such TMDLs or WLAs will assure the attainment of such water quality standards.

- ii. For attainment waters, CWA section 303(d)(4)(B) specifies that a limitation based on a water quality standard may be relaxed where the action is consistent with the antidegradation policy.

Salt Creek is considered an attainment water for aluminum, ammonia, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes because the receiving water is not listed as impaired on the 303(d) list for this constituent. As discussed in section IV.D.4, below, removal and relaxation of the effluent limits complies with federal and state antidegradation requirements. Thus, removal of the effluent limitations for aluminum, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes, and relaxation of the effluent limitations for ammonia, from Order R5-2008-0185-01 meets the exception in CWA section 303(d)(4)(B).

- b. **CWA section 402(o)(2).** CWA section 402(o)(2) provides several exceptions to the anti-backsliding regulations. CWA 402(o)(2)(B)(i) allows a renewed, reissued, or modified permit to contain a less stringent effluent limitation for a pollutant if information is available which was not available at the time of permit issuance (other than revised regulations, guidance, or test methods) and which would have justified the application of a less stringent effluent limitation at the time of permit issuance.

As described further in section IV.C.3.b of this Fact Sheet, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2008-0185-01 was issued indicates that aluminum, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes do not exhibit reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in the receiving water. Additionally, updated information that was not available at the time Order R5-2008-0185-01 was issued indicates that less stringent effluent limitations for ammonia based on updated pH and temperature data to calculate the applicable 2013 NAWQC criteria satisfy requirements in CWA section 402(o)(2). The updated information that supports the relaxation of effluent limitations for these constituents includes the following:

- i. **Aluminum.** Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Secondary MCL or NAWQC acute criterion. Furthermore, in June 2012, the Discharger conducted filter repairs and on-site training for staff to optimize filter operations in order to eliminate the need for use of an aluminum-based coagulant at high dosages for turbidity removal. Consequently, aluminum has not been detected in the effluent since August 2012.
- ii. **Ammonia.** Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations based on the 1999 NAWQC for the protection of freshwater aquatic life for total ammonia to interpret the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective. In April 2013, U.S. EPA finalized the updated nationally applicable ammonia criteria based on the latest toxicity information for freshwater species, including unionid mussels and gill-breathing snails. This Order includes effluent limitations for ammonia based on the updated 2013 NAWQC (assuming mussels absent). The criteria were calculated considering both effluent and downstream data and effluent limits were calculated using effluent pH and temperature data collected between January 2009 and August 2013.

- iii. **Bromoform.** Bromoform is a chlorine disinfection byproduct. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion.
- iv. **Chlorine Residual.** Use of chlorine for disinfection has been discontinued at the Facility since the Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Therefore, the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.
- v. **Chlorodibromomethane.** Chlorodibromomethane is a chlorine disinfection byproduct. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion.
- vi. **Chloroform.** Chloroform is a chlorine disinfection byproduct. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes.
- vii. **Cyanide.** Cyanide is a chlorine disinfection byproduct. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion.
- viii. **Dichlorobromomethane.** Dichlorobromomethane is a chlorine disinfection byproduct. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the CTR criterion.
- ix. **Iron.** The Discharger upgraded to a new Facility in June 2011 that included tertiary filters. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Secondary MCL.
- x. **Manganese.** The Discharger upgraded to a new Facility in June 2011 that included tertiary filters. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Secondary MCL.
- xi. **Settleable Solids.** The Facility was upgraded in June 2011 to provide tertiary treatment, including filtration. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Basin Plan's narrative objective.

- xii. **Total Trihalomethanes.** Total trihalomethanes are chlorine disinfection byproducts. The Discharger converted from chlorine disinfection to UV disinfection in June 2011. Effluent monitoring data collected between October 2011 and October 2013 indicates that the discharge does not demonstrate reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the Primary MCL for total trihalomethanes.

Thus, removal of the effluent limitations for aluminum, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes and relaxation of effluent limitations for ammonia from Order R5-2008-0185-01 is in accordance with CWA section 402(o)(2)(B)(i), which allows for the removal of effluent limitations based on information that was not available at the time of permit issuance.

4. Antidegradation Policies

- a. **Surface Water.** This Order does not allow for an increase in flow or mass of pollutants to the receiving water. Therefore, a complete antidegradation analysis is not necessary. The Order requires compliance with applicable federal technology-based standards and with WQBELs where the discharge could have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. The permitted discharge is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Compliance with these requirements will result in the use of best practicable treatment or control of the discharge. The impact on existing water quality will be insignificant.

This Order removes existing effluent limitations for constituents in which updated monitoring data demonstrates that the effluent does not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable water quality criteria or objectives in the receiving water (i.e., aluminum, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes). This Order relaxes existing effluent limitations for ammonia based on updated pH and temperature data used to calculate the applicable new 2013 NAWQC criterion for the protection of aquatic life. Therefore, the removal of the WQBELs for aluminum, bromoform, chlorine residual, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, iron, manganese, settleable solids, and total trihalomethanes and the relaxation of WQBELs for ammonia will not result in an increase in pollutant concentration or loading, a decrease in the level of treatment or control, or a reduction of water quality. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board finds that the removal and relaxation of the effluent limitations does not result in an allowed increase in pollutants or any additional degradation of the receiving water. Thus, the removal and relaxation of effluent limitations is consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16.

- b. **Groundwater.** The Discharger formerly used aerated waste stabilization ponds. Domestic wastewater contains constituents such as total dissolved solids (TDS), electrical conductivity (EC), pathogens, and nitrates. Percolation from the ponds may have resulted in an increase in the concentration of these constituents in groundwater. The increase in the concentration of these constituents in groundwater must be consistent with Resolution No. 68-16. Any increase in pollutant concentrations in groundwater must be shown to be necessary to allow wastewater utility service necessary to accommodate housing and economic expansion in the area and must be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of

the State of California. Some degradation of groundwater by the Discharger is consistent with Resolution No. 68-16 provided that:

- i. the degradation is limited in extent;
- ii. the degradation after effective source control, treatment, and control is limited to waste constituents typically encountered in municipal wastewater as specified in the groundwater limitations in this Order;
- iii. the Discharger minimizes the degradation by fully implementing, regularly maintaining, and optimally operating best practicable treatment and control (BPTC) measures; and
- iv. the degradation does not result in water quality less than that prescribed in the Basin Plan.

Groundwater monitoring results, submitted as part of the Report of Waste Discharge, show that EC, TDS, nitrate, and total coliform organisms from the treatment system may have degraded groundwater quality. However, the Discharger lined most of the ponds during the term of previous Order R5-2008-0185-01 and therefore likely eliminated any further degradation to groundwater. Thus, groundwater limitations for EC, TDS, and nitrate have not been included in this Order. But groundwater monitoring data and subsequent trend analysis did not conclusively indicate that groundwater quality improved. Thus the effluent limitation for total coliform organisms, as a median of 2.2 MPN/100 mL over any 7-day period, is retained in this Order from previous Order R5-2008-0185-01 because a small unlined pond may still be used for emergency storage under high-flow conditions. In addition, the Discharger is required to monitor the pond when used and to continue quarterly groundwater monitoring as specified in Attachment E. The Discharger is also required to submit 1) a report on the removal of solids from the ponds, 2) a groundwater trends report from 1 January 2010 through 31 December 2014, and 3) annual groundwater trends updates. See Section VI.C.2.b of this Order for task list and due dates. The intent of the continued groundwater monitoring and trend analyses is to provide enough information at the end of this permit term for Central Valley Water Board staff to determine whether groundwater has improved and thus the Facility improvements minimized the degradation to groundwater. Additionally, continued monitoring provides new information for the staff to evaluate and determine that effluent limitations for total coliform organisms may be removed from the next permit and whether continued groundwater monitoring is warranted.

5. Stringency of Requirements for Individual Pollutants

This Order contains both technology-based effluent limitations and WQBELs for individual pollutants. The technology-based effluent limitations consist of restrictions on flow and percent removal requirements for BOD₅ and TSS. Restrictions on these parameters are discussed in section IV.B.2 of this Fact Sheet. This Order's technology-based pollutant restrictions implement the minimum, applicable federal technology-based requirements. In addition, this Order contains effluent limitations more stringent than the minimum, federal technology-based requirements that are necessary to meet water quality standards.

WQBELs have been derived to implement water quality objectives that protect beneficial uses. Both the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives have been approved pursuant to federal law and are the applicable federal water quality standards. To the extent that toxic pollutant water quality-based effluent limitations were derived from the

CTR, the CTR is the applicable standard pursuant to 40 C.F.R. section 131.38. The procedures for calculating the individual water quality-based effluent limitations for priority pollutants are based on the CTR implemented by the SIP, which was approved by U.S. EPA on May 18, 2000. All beneficial uses and water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan were approved under state law and submitted to and approved by U.S. EPA prior to May 30, 2000. Any water quality objectives and beneficial uses submitted to U.S. EPA prior to May 30, 2000, but not approved by U.S. EPA before that date, are nonetheless “*applicable water quality standards for purposes of the CWA*” pursuant to 40 C.F.R. section 131.21(c)(1). Collectively, this Order’s restrictions on individual pollutants are no more stringent than required to implement the requirements of the CWA.

This Order contains pollutant restrictions that are more stringent than applicable federal requirements and standards. Specifically, this Order includes effluent limitations for total coliform organisms that are more stringent than applicable federal standards, but that are nonetheless necessary to meet numeric objectives or protect beneficial uses. The rationale for including these limitations is explained in section IV.C.3 of the Fact Sheet. In addition, the Central Valley Water Board has considered the factors in Water Code section 13241 in section IV.C.3 of the Fact Sheet.

**Summary of Final Effluent Limitations
Discharge Point 001**

Table F-16. Summary of Final Effluent Limitations

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis ¹
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
Average Dry Weather Flow	MGD	0.5 ²	--	--	--	--	DC
Conventional Pollutants							
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--	TTC
	lbs/day ³	40 42	63	83	--	--	
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	CFR
pH	standard units	--	--	--	6.5	8.5	BP
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	10	15	20	--	--	TTC
	lbs/day ³	40 42	63	83	--	--	
	% Removal	85	--	--	--	--	CFR
Priority Pollutants							
Mercury, Total Recoverable	lbs/year	0.0168 ⁴	--	--	--	--	PB
Non-Conventional Pollutants							
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	0.9	--	1.8	--	--	NAWQC
	lbs/day ³	3.8	--	7.5	--	--	
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	2,300 ⁵	--	--	--	--	PB
Nitrate Plus Nitrite (as N)	mg/L	10	--	--	--	--	MCL

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations					Basis ¹
		Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum	
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	--	2.2 ⁶	23 ⁷	--	240	Title 22
Acute Toxicity	% Survival	--	--	70 ⁸ /90 ⁹	--	--	BP

- ¹ DC – Based on the design capacity of the Facility.
TTC – Based on tertiary treatment capability. These effluent limitations reflect the capability of a properly operated tertiary treatment plant.
CFR – Based on secondary treatment standards contained in 40 CFR Part 133.
BP – Based on water quality objectives contained in the Basin Plan.
NAWQC – Based on USEPA's National Ambient Water Quality Criteria for the protection of freshwater aquatic life.
PB – Based on Facility performance.
MCL – Based on the Primary Maximum Contaminant Level.
Title 22 – Based on CA Department of Public Health Reclamation Criteria, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 3 (Title 22).
- ² The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 0.5 MGD.
- ³ Based on a design flow of 0.5 MGD.
- ⁴ The total annual mass discharge of total mercury shall not exceed 0.0168 lbs/year.
- ⁵ Applied as an annual average effluent limitation.
- ⁶ Applied as a 7-day median effluent limitation.
- ⁷ Not to be exceeded more than once in any 30-day period.
- ⁸ 70% minimum of any one bioassay.
- ⁹ 90% median for any three consecutive bioassays.

E. Interim Effluent Limitations – Not Applicable

F. Land Discharge Specifications – Not Applicable

G. Recycling Specifications – Not Applicable

V. RATIONALE FOR RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS

A. Surface Water

1. CWA section 303(a-c), requires states to adopt water quality standards, including criteria where they are necessary to protect beneficial uses. The Central Valley Water Board adopted water quality criteria as water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan states that “[t]he numerical and narrative water quality objectives define the least stringent standards that the Regional Water Board will apply to regional waters in order to protect the beneficial uses.” The Basin Plan includes numeric and narrative water quality objectives for various beneficial uses and water bodies. This Order contains receiving surface water limitations based on the Basin Plan numerical and narrative water quality objectives for bacteria, biostimulatory substances, color, chemical constituents, dissolved oxygen, floating material, oil and grease, pH, pesticides, radioactivity, suspended sediment, settleable substances, suspended material, tastes and odors, temperature, toxicity, and turbidity.
 - a. **pH.** Order R5-2008-0185-01 established a receiving water limitation for pH specifying that discharges from the Facility shall not cause the ambient pH to change by more than 0.5 units based on the water quality objective for pH in the Basin Plan. The Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution R5-2007-0136 on 25 October 2007, amending the Basin Plan to delete the portion of the pH water quality objective that limits the change in pH to 0.5 units and the allowance of averaging periods for pH. The Basin Plan amendment has been approved by the

State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and U.S. EPA. Consistent with the revised water quality objective in the Basin Plan, this Order does not require a receiving water limitation for pH change.

In Finding No. 14 of Resolution R5-2007-0136 the Central Valley Water Board found that the change in the pH receiving water objective is consistent with the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, in that the changes to water quality objectives (i) consider maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR 131.12).

Ammonia is the only constituent in the discharge regulated by this Order directly related to pH. The fixed ammonia effluent limitations in this Order are based on reasonable worse-case conditions. Although ammonia criteria are based on pH, and the pH receiving water limitations are more lenient in this Order than in the previous permit, the fixed ammonia limits are developed to protect under worse-case pH conditions. Therefore the relaxation of the pH receiving water limitation will protect aquatic life and other beneficial uses and will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses nor result in water quality less than described in applicable policies. The relaxation of the receiving water limitation is not expected to cause other impacts on water quality. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the relaxation of the pH receiving water limitation (i) is to the maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR 131.12).

The revised receiving water limitation for pH, which is based on the amendment to the Basin Plan's pH water quality objective, reflects current scientifically supported pH requirements for the protection of aquatic life and other beneficial uses. The revised receiving water limitation for pH is more consistent with the current USEPA recommended criteria and is fully protective of aquatic life and the other beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan. Changes in pH when pH is maintained within the range of 6.5 to 8.5 are neither beneficial nor adverse and, therefore, are not considered to be degradation in water quality. Attempting to restrict pH changes to 0.5 pH units would incur substantial costs without demonstrable benefits to beneficial uses. Thus, any changes in pH that would occur under the revised pH limitation would not only be protective of beneficial uses, but also would be consistent with maximum benefit to people of the State. Therefore the proposed amendment will not violate antidegradation policies.

- b. **Turbidity.** Order R5-2008-0185-01 established a receiving water limitation for turbidity specifying that discharges from the Facility shall not cause the turbidity to increase more than 1 NTU where natural turbidity is between 0 and 5 NTU based on the water quality objective for turbidity in the Basin Plan. The Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution R5-2007-0136 on 25 October 2007, amending the Basin Plan to limit turbidity to 2 NTU when the natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU. The Basin Plan amendment has been approved by the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and U.S. EPA. Consistent with the revised water quality objective in the Basin Plan, this Order limits turbidity to 2 NTU when the natural turbidity is less than 1 NTU.

In Finding No. 14 of Resolution R5-2007-0136 the Central Valley Water Board found that the change in the turbidity receiving water objective is consistent with the State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, in that the changes to water quality objectives (i) consider maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR 131.12).

This Order includes operational specifications that require the Discharger to operate the treatment system to insure that turbidity shall not exceed 2 NTU as a daily average, and 5 NTU more than 5 percent of the time within a 24 hour period, and 10 NTU, at any time. Because this Order limits the average daily discharge of turbidity to 2 NTU, the Order will be protective of the receiving water under all natural background conditions as defined in the Basin Plan's revised water quality objective for turbidity. The relaxation of the turbidity receiving water limitation will protect aquatic life and other beneficial uses and will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses nor result in water quality less than described in applicable policies. The relaxation of the receiving water limitation is not expected to cause other impacts on water quality. The Central Valley Water Board finds that the relaxation of the turbidity receiving water limitation (i) is to the maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR 131.12).

The revised receiving water limitation for turbidity, which is based on the amendment to the Basin Plan's turbidity water quality objective, reflects current scientifically supported turbidity requirements for the protection of aquatic life and other beneficial uses and, therefore, will be fully protective of aquatic life and the other beneficial uses listed in the Basin Plan. Changes in turbidity allowed by the revised receiving water limitation, when ambient turbidity is below 1 NTU, would not adversely affect beneficial uses and would maintain water quality at a level higher than necessary to protect beneficial uses. Restricting low-level turbidity changes further may require costly upgrades, which would not provide any additional protection of beneficial uses. Thus, any changes in turbidity that would occur under the amended turbidity receiving water limitation would not only be protective of beneficial uses, but also would be consistent with maximum benefit to people of the State. Therefore, the relaxed receiving water limitations for turbidity will not violate antidegradation policies.

B. Groundwater

1. The beneficial uses of the underlying groundwater are municipal and domestic supply, industrial service supply, industrial process supply, and agricultural supply.
2. Basin Plan water quality objectives include narrative objectives for chemical constituents, tastes and odors, and toxicity of groundwater. The toxicity objective requires that groundwater be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in humans, plants, animals, or aquatic life. The chemical constituent objective states groundwater shall not contain chemical constituents in concentrations that adversely affect any beneficial use. The tastes and odors objective prohibits taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. The Basin Plan also establishes numerical water quality objectives for chemical constituents and radioactivity in groundwaters

designated as municipal supply. These include, at a minimum, compliance with MCLs in Title 22 of the CCR. The bacteria objective prohibits coliform organisms at or above 2.2 MPN/100 mL. The Basin Plan requires the application of the most stringent objective necessary to ensure that waters do not contain chemical constituents, toxic substances, radionuclides, taste- or odor-producing substances, or bacteria in concentrations that adversely affect municipal or domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial supply or some other beneficial use.

3. The Discharger has not submitted studies that fully establish background groundwater quality or appropriately define appropriate groundwater limitations that protect the beneficial uses. Because the costs to undertake these studies are significant, and the upgrade to the treatment facility (e.g., conversion of ponds to activated sludge, the lining of several ponds, the infrequent discharge to unlined ponds) likely eliminates any further impact to groundwater, groundwater limitations for EC, TDS, and nitrate have not been included in this Order. An effluent limitation for total coliform organisms as a median of 2.2 MPN/100 mL over any 7-day period, is retained in this Order from the previous NPDES Permit because the total coliform groundwater data showed no obvious trends. This Order requires the Discharger to submit a report documenting past efforts to remove wastes from the storage basins. This Order also requires the Discharger to continue groundwater monitoring, prepare groundwater trend analyses, and submit annual updates evaluating pollutant concentration trends.

VI. RATIONALE FOR PROVISIONS

A. Standard Provisions

Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 122.42, are provided in Attachment D. The discharger must comply with all standard provisions and with those additional conditions that are applicable under section 122.42.

Sections 122.41(a)(1) and (b) through (n) of 40 C.F.R. establish conditions that apply to all state-issued NPDES permits. These conditions must be incorporated into the permits either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the regulations must be included in the Order. Section 123.25(a)(12) of 40 C.F.R. allows the state to omit or modify conditions to impose more stringent requirements. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. section 123.25, this Order omits federal conditions that address enforcement authority specified in 40 C.F.R. sections 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2) because the enforcement authority under the Water Code is more stringent. In lieu of these conditions, this Order incorporates by reference Water Code section 13387(e).

B. Special Provisions

1. Reopener Provisions

- a. **Mercury.** This provision allows the Central Valley Water Board to reopen this Order in the event mercury is found to be causing toxicity based on acute or chronic toxicity test results, or if a TMDL program is adopted. In addition, this Order may be reopened if the Central Valley Water Board determines that a mercury offset program is feasible for dischargers subject to NPDES permits.
- b. **Whole Effluent Toxicity.** This Order requires the Discharger to investigate the causes of, and identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate, effluent toxicity through a TRE. This Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation, a new acute toxicity limitation, and/or a limitation for a specific toxicant

identified in the TRE. Additionally, if a numeric chronic toxicity water quality objective is adopted by the State Water Board, this Order may be reopened to include a numeric chronic toxicity limitation based on that objective.

- c. **Water Effects Ratio (WER) and Metal Translators.** A default WER of 1.0 has been used in this Order for calculating criteria for applicable inorganic constituents. In addition, default dissolved-to-total metal translators have been used to convert water quality objectives from dissolved to total recoverable. If the Discharger performs studies to determine site-specific WERs and/or site-specific dissolved-to-total metal translators, this Order may be reopened to modify the effluent limitations for the applicable inorganic constituents.
- d. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection Operating Specifications.** UV system operating specifications are required to ensure that the UV system is operated to achieve the required pathogen removal. UV disinfection system specifications and monitoring and reporting requirements are required to ensure that adequate UV dosage is applied to the wastewater to inactivate pathogens (e.g., viruses) in the wastewater. UV dosage is dependent on several factors such as UV transmittance, UV power setting, wastewater turbidity, and wastewater flow through the UV disinfection system. The UV specifications in this Order are based on the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) guidelines. If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that identifies site-specific UV operating specifications that will achieve the virus inactivation required by Title 22 for disinfected tertiary recycled water, this Order may be reopened to modify the UV specifications.

2. Special Studies and Additional Monitoring Requirements

- a. **Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Requirements.** The Basin Plan contains a narrative toxicity objective that states, “*All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.*” (Basin Plan at page III-8.00.) Based on whole effluent chronic toxicity testing performed by the Discharger from October 2011 to October 2013, the discharge does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an in-stream excursion above of the Basin Plan’s narrative toxicity objective.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program of this Order requires chronic WET monitoring for demonstration of compliance with the narrative toxicity objective. In addition to WET monitoring, this provision requires the Discharger to submit to the Central Valley Water Board an Initial Investigative TRE Workplan for approval by the Executive Officer, to ensure the Discharger has a plan to immediately move forward with the initial tiers of a TRE, in the event effluent toxicity is encountered in the future. The provision also includes a numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, requirements for accelerated monitoring, and requirements for TRE initiation if toxicity is demonstrated.

Monitoring Trigger. A numeric toxicity monitoring trigger of $> 1 \text{ TUc}$ (where $\text{TUc} = 100/\text{NOEC}$) is applied in the provision, because this Order does not allow any dilution for the chronic condition. Therefore, a TRE is triggered when the effluent exhibits toxicity at 100% effluent.

Accelerated Monitoring. The provision requires accelerated WET testing when a regular WET test result exceeds the monitoring trigger. The purpose of accelerated monitoring is to determine, in an expedient manner, whether there is toxicity before requiring the implementation of a TRE. Due to possible seasonality of the toxicity,

the accelerated monitoring should be performed in a timely manner, preferably taking no more than 2 to 3 months to complete.

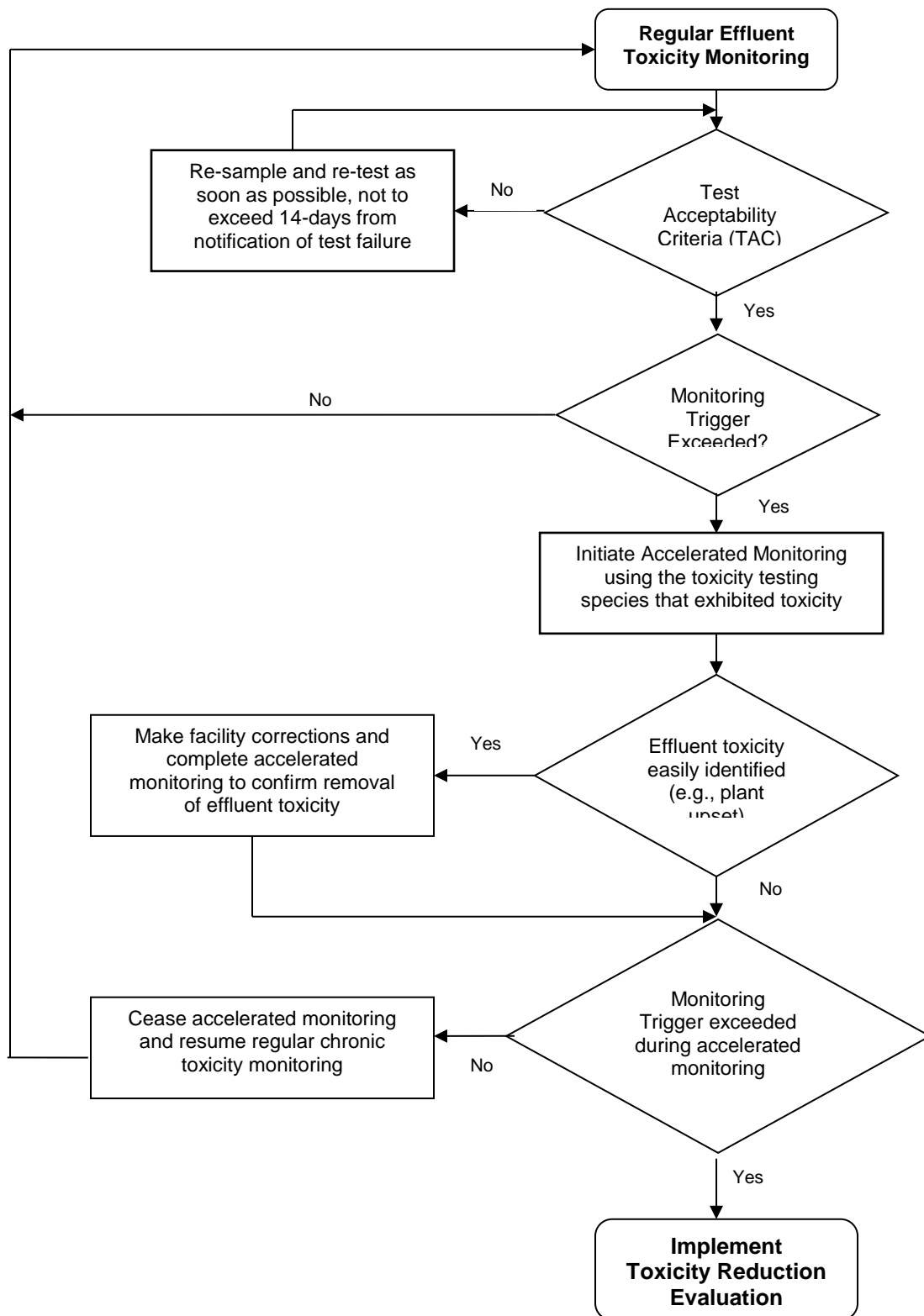
The provision requires accelerated monitoring consisting of four chronic toxicity tests in a six-week period (i.e., one test every two weeks) using the species that exhibited toxicity. Guidance regarding accelerated monitoring and TRE initiation is provided in the *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control*, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991 (TSD). The TSD at page 118 states, “EPA recommends if toxicity is repeatedly or periodically present at levels above effluent limits more than 20 percent of the time, a TRE should be required.” Therefore, four accelerated monitoring tests are required in this provision. If no toxicity is demonstrated in the four accelerated tests, then it demonstrates that toxicity is not present at levels above the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time (only 1 of 5 tests are toxic, including the initial test). However, notwithstanding the accelerated monitoring results, if there is adequate evidence of effluent toxicity (i.e., toxicity present exceeding the monitoring trigger more than 20 percent of the time), the Executive Officer may require that the Discharger initiate a TRE.

See the WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart (Figure F-1), below, for further clarification of the accelerated monitoring requirements and for the decision points for determining the need for TRE initiation.

TRE Guidance. The Discharger is required to prepare a TRE Workplan in accordance with USEPA guidance. Numerous guidance documents are available, as identified below:

- *Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants*, EPA/833-B-99/002, August 1999.
- *Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations (TREs)*, EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures, Second Edition*, EPA 600/6-91/003, February 1991.
- *Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I*, EPA/600/6-91/005F, May 1992.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition*, EPA/600/R-92/080, September 1993.
- *Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity, Second Edition*, EPA 600/R-92/081, September 1993.
- *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms, Fifth Edition*, EPA-821-R-02-012, October 2002.
- *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition*, EPA-821-R-02-013, October 2002.
- *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control*, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991.

Figure F-1
WET Accelerated Monitoring Flow Chart



- b. **Groundwater Monitoring and Evaluation.** Prior to the 2011 upgrade, the Facility included three unlined aerated treatment ponds (Ponds 2, 3, and 4) that were in operation between 1974 and 2011. In 2011, sludge was removed from the treatment ponds. A portion of the old pond system was converted to a lined activated sludge treatment system that nitrifies/denitrifies in parallel, and the equalization basin was lined with a high density polyethylene (HDPE) liner. Remnants of Ponds 3 and 4 were left unlined and will be used for 100-year flood protection or to divert and store wastewater in case of a plant upset.

Groundwater at the Facility is shallow, and at times the groundwater elevation is higher than the pond bottoms. Depth to groundwater in the monitoring wells is approximately 5 to 10 feet. Groundwater monitoring has been ongoing since the three wells were installed in 1991.

The Discharger's groundwater evaluation report states that seasonal groundwater flow changes direction due to pumping for agricultural uses, and thus, all wells at times are cross-gradient of the pond system. However, groundwater well MW-1 is sometimes up gradient of the pond system, and MW-2 and MW-3 are sometimes downgradient of the ponds. Groundwater concentrations of EC, TDS, nitrate, and total coliform organisms could be caused by residual contamination left in ponds or in the vadose zone.

Therefore, this Order requires the Discharger to submit a report documenting past efforts to remove wastes from the remaining unlined emergency storage basins, and the remaining potential pollutants which may impact groundwater. This Order also requires the Discharger to conduct groundwater monitoring, trend analysis, and submit annual reports evaluating pollutant concentration trends in the groundwater.

The intent of the continued groundwater monitoring and trend analyses is to provide enough information at the end of this permit term for Central Valley Water Board staff to determine whether the effluent limitations for total coliform organisms may be removed from the next permit and whether continued groundwater monitoring is warranted.

- c. **Survey and Evaluation of Influent Sources of Salinity.** ~~This Order requires the Discharger to survey and assess the local users of the WWTP collection system and submit a report containing the results of the survey and assessment.~~ This Order requires the Discharger to determine the basis for the observed effluent salinity and report the findings. The final report shall include the City's proposal to reduce salinity concentrations within the effluent, including projected timelines. The City, in the final report, may also propose site-specific salinity objective based upon the factual findings of this study.

3. Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention

- a. **Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan.** As required by Order R5-2008-0185-01, the Discharger submitted a Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan (Plan) dated 4 September 2009. The Plan indicated that the source of electrical conductivity was from the water supply (~1,000 µmhos/cm), residential use (additional ~700 µmhos/cm), and the treatment processes (evaporation in treatment ponds and from chlorination/dechlorination agents). Salinity reductions were expected from the 2011 upgrade project, which included decommissioning the treatment ponds, conversion to UV disinfection, nitrogen removal, and activated sludge. However, salinity concentrations in the effluent subsequent to the upgrades

continues to be high, with an average and maximum electrical conductivity concentrations of 1,852 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ and 1,934 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$, respectively.

Although the Plan identified the upgrade project as the primary method for achieving salinity minimization, the Plan also identified additional measures, including:

1) assessing the feasibility of higher quality water supplies for future increases in the potable water supply; 2) public and commercial education materials, including a survey of water softener use; and 3) modifying the Plumbing Code to prevent the plumbing of water lines for softeners. However, the Discharger has not implemented any additional measures for reducing salinity since completion of the upgrade project.

The Discharger has conducted weekly monitoring of influent electrical conductivity concentrations, which indicate that influent electrical conductivity concentrations have steadily increased between 2009 and 2013, which may explain why the treatment system has not shown a decrease in effluent electrical conductivity concentrations. The maximum reported influent electrical conductivity concentration was 3,200 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ in July 2013.

Due to the high influent salinity levels, this Order requires the Discharger to update and implement their September 2009 Salinity Evaluation and Minimization Plan to ensure adequate measures are developed and implemented by the Discharger to reduce the discharge of salinity to Salt Creek.

4. Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Specifications

- a. **Filtration System Operating Specifications.** Turbidity is included as an operational specification as an indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system for providing adequate disinfection. The tertiary treatment process utilized at this Facility is capable of reliably meeting a turbidity limitation of 2 NTU as a daily average. Failure of the treatment system such that virus removal is impaired would normally result in increased particles in the effluent, which result in higher effluent turbidity and could impact UV dosage. Turbidity has a major advantage for monitoring filter performance, allowing immediate detection of filter failure and rapid corrective action. The operational specification requires that turbidity prior to disinfection shall not exceed 2 NTU as a daily average; 5 NTU, more than 5 percent of the time within a 24-hour period, and an instantaneous maximum of 10 NTU.
- b. **Ultraviolet Light (UV) Disinfection System Operating Specifications.** This Order requires that wastewater shall be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to DPH reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3, (Title 22), or equivalent. To ensure that the UV disinfection system is operated to achieve the required pathogen removal, this Order includes effluent limits for total coliform organisms, Filtration system operating specifications, and UV disinfection system operating specifications. Compliance with total coliform effluent limits alone does not ensure that pathogens in the municipal wastewater have been deactivated by the UV disinfection system. Compliance with the effluent limits and the filtration system and UV disinfection operating specifications demonstrates compliance with the equivalency to Title 22 disinfection requirement.

The NWRI/AWWRF's "*Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Water Reuse*" first published in December 2000 and revised as a Third Edition dated August 2012 (NWRI guidelines) includes UV operating specifications for compliance with Title 22. For water recycling in accordance with Title 22, the UV system shall be an approved system included in the Treatment Technology Report

for Recycled Water, December 2009 (or a later version, as applicable) published by DPH. The UV system shall also conform to all requirements and operating specifications of the NWRI guidelines. A Memorandum dated 1 November 2004 issued by DPH to Regional Water Board executive officers recommended that provisions be included in permits for water recycling treatment plants employing UV disinfection requiring Dischargers to establish fixed cleaning frequency of lamp sleeves, as well as, include provisions that specify minimum delivered UV dose that must be maintained (per the NWRI Guidelines).

For media filtration, the NWRI guidelines recommend a minimum hourly average UV dose of 100 mJ/cm². Therefore, this Order includes UV operating specifications requiring a minimum hourly average UV dose of 100 mJ/cm² and a minimum hourly average UV transmittance of 55%, per the NWRI Guidelines. If the Discharger conducts a site-specific UV engineering study that demonstrates a lower UV dose meets a Title 22 equivalent virus removal, this Order may be reopened to revise the UV operating specifications accordingly.

- c. The pond operation and maintenance specifications are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the groundwater. The limitations included in this Order are retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01.

5. Special Provisions for Municipal Facilities (POTWs Only)

- a. The State Water Board issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems, Water Quality Order 2006-0003-DWQ (General Order) on 2 May 2006. The Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for the General Order were amended by Water Quality Order WQ 2008-0002-EXEC on 20 February 2008. The General Order requires public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems with greater than 1 mile of pipes or sewer lines to enroll for coverage under the General Order. The General Order requires agencies to develop sanitary sewer management plans (SSMPs) and report all sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), among other requirements and prohibitions.

Furthermore, the General Order contains requirements for operation and maintenance of collection systems and for reporting and mitigating sanitary sewer overflows. The Discharger is enrolled under State Water Board Order 2006-0003-DWQ.

- b. **Anaerobically Digestible Material.** Managers of publicly owned treatment works (POTW's) increasingly are considering the addition of organic material such as food waste, fats, oils and grease (FOG) into their anaerobic digesters for co-digestion to increase the volume of methane and other biogases for energy production. The State Water Board has been working with the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) to delineate jurisdictional authority for the receipt of hauled-in anaerobically digestible material (ADM¹) at POTW's for co-digestion.

CalRecycle is proposing an exclusion from Process Facility/Transfer Station permits for direct injection of ADM to POTW anaerobic digesters for co-digestion that are regulated under waste discharge requirements or NPDES permits. The proposed CalRecycle exclusion is restricted to ADM that has been prescreened, slurried, and

¹ CalRecycle defines "anaerobically digestible material" as: inedible kitchen grease as defined in section 19216 of the Food and Agricultural Code, food material as defined in Title 14, CCR, Chapter 3.1, Article 1, Section 17582(a) (2) and vegetative food material as defined in Title 14, CCR, Chapter 3.1, Article 1, Section 17582(A).

processed/conveyed in a closed system to be co-digested with regular POTW sludge. The CalRecycle exclusion assumes that a POTW has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for the proper handling, processing, tracking, and management of the ADM received.

The Discharger currently does not accept hauled-in ADM for direct injection into its anaerobic digester. However, if the Discharger proposes to receive hauled-in ADM for injection into its anaerobic digester for co-digestion, this provision requires the Discharger to notify the Central Valley Water Board and develop and implement SOP's for this activity prior to initiation of the hauling.

6. Other Special Provisions

- a. **Title 22, or Equivalent, Disinfection Requirements.** Consistent with Order R5-2008-0185-01, this Order requires wastewater to be oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and adequately disinfected pursuant to DPH reclamation criteria, CCR, Title 22, division 4, chapter 3 (Title 22), or equivalent.

7. Compliance Schedules – Not Applicable

VII. RATIONALE FOR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Section 122.48 of 40 C.F.R. requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Central Valley Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP), Attachment E, establishes monitoring and reporting requirements that implement federal and state requirements. The following provides the rationale for the monitoring and reporting requirements contained in the MRP for this Facility.

A. Influent Monitoring

1. Influent monitoring is required to collect data on the characteristics of the wastewater and to assess compliance with effluent limitations (e.g., BOD₅ and TSS reduction requirements). The monitoring frequencies for flow (continuous), BOD₅ (twice per month), and TSS (twice per month) have been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01.
2. Order R5-2008-0185-01 required monitoring for pH. Monitoring requirements for pH have not been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01 as monitoring is not necessary to determine compliance with permit requirements.
3. In order to characterize the contribution of salinity in the influent wastewater, this Order establishes monthly influent monitoring for electrical conductivity.

B. Effluent Monitoring

1. Pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR 122.44(i)(2) effluent monitoring is required for all constituents with effluent limitations. Effluent monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with effluent limitations, assess the effectiveness of the treatment process, and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream and groundwater.
2. Effluent monitoring frequencies and sample types for flow (continuous), BOD₅ (weekly), pH (three times per week), TSS (weekly), bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (quarterly), ammonia (twice per week), hardness (quarterly), nitrate (monthly), and temperature (three times per week) have been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01 to determine compliance with effluent limitations for these parameters, where applicable, and characterize the effluent.
3. Monitoring data collected over the term of Order R5-2008-0185-01 for bromoform, carbon tetrachloride, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, cyanide,

dichlorobromomethane, persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides, total trihalomethanes, aluminum, carbofuran, iron, manganese, methoxychlor, settleable solids, standard minerals did not demonstrate reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives/criteria. Thus, specific monitoring requirements for these parameters have not been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01.

4. Monitoring data over the term of Order R5-2008-0185-01 for mercury indicates the discharge did not exceed the CTR criterion and was in compliance with the applicable effluent limitation. Therefore, this Order reduces the monitoring frequency for mercury from monthly to quarterly.
5. Order R5-2008-0185-01 included effluent limitations for aluminum and required monthly effluent monitoring. In June 2012, the Discharger conducted filter repairs and on-site training for staff to optimize filter operations in order to eliminate the need for use of aluminum-based coagulant at high dosages for turbidity removal. Consequently, aluminum has not been detected in the effluent since August 2012 and the discharge no longer exhibits reasonable potential to exceed water quality objectives. Therefore, this Order does not retain the effluent limitations or monthly monitoring requirements for aluminum. However, in the event aluminum-based coagulants are used in the treatment process in the future, this Order requires weekly monitoring.
6. Order R5-2008-0185-01 required effluent monitoring for electrical conductivity three times per week and total dissolved solids once per week. This Order reduces the monitoring frequency for the constituents to monthly. The Central Valley Water Board finds that this frequency is sufficient to determine compliance with the applicable effluent limitations and characterize the effluent.
7. Order R5-2008-0185-01 required continuous monitoring for chlorine residual. In June 2011, the Discharger completed upgrades to the Facility, which included replacing chlorine disinfection with UV disinfection. Although the Discharger no longer uses chlorine disinfection, the Discharger stores sodium hypochlorite in a 1,000 gallon tank for use in controlling bulking in the clarifier, biological growth in the sample feed lines, and to treat the plant water distribution system, as needed. Based on the periodic use of chlorine, this Order requires daily monitoring for chlorine residual during periods of chlorine use in the treatment system.
8. As discussed in section IV.C.3.a of this Fact Sheet, diazinon and chlorpyrifos were detected but not quantified in the effluent, but the Discharger did not use analytical methods sensitive enough to determine compliance with the DFW criteria. Therefore, the Central Valley Water Board is not establishing effluent limitations for diazinon or chlorpyrifos at this time. Instead, this Order requires quarterly effluent monitoring for diazinon and chlorpyrifos during the first year of the permit term. If diazinon and chlorpyrifos are not detected in the effluent above the applicable RLs, the monitoring frequency shall be reduced to annually.
9. This Order establishes a new effluent limitation for nitrate plus nitrite. Therefore, this Order establishes monthly monitoring for nitrate and nitrite to determine compliance with the applicable effluent limitation.
10. Order R5-2008-0185-01 required monitoring for turbidity continuously and total coliform organisms three times per week at Monitoring Location EFF-001. This Order retains the monitoring frequencies for turbidity and total coliform organisms, but moves the point of compliance from Monitoring Location EFF-001 to an internal compliance point following the filtration system and prior to the UV disinfection system for turbidity and following the UV disinfection system for total coliform organisms. Therefore, monitoring for turbidity is

required at Monitoring Location FIL-001 and monitoring for total coliform organisms is required at Monitoring Location UVS-002.

The UV disinfection system has multiple channels. Regrowth of total coliform bacteria may occur at various locations in each channel after disinfection has occurred. To minimize the potential for sampling the regrowth, collection of total coliform organism samples shall be from the lead channel as water cascades over the weir and down into the collection trough (UV Effluent Channel). The designation of lead channel (with Monitoring Location UVS-002) shall rotate on a regular basis; therefore, the Discharger shall identify the lead channel at the time of sample collection.

In accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, periodic monitoring is required for priority pollutants for which criteria or objectives apply and for which no effluent limitations have been established. This Order requires effluent monitoring for priority pollutants quarterly during the third year of the permit term. See Attachment E, Section IX.D for more detailed requirements related to performing priority pollutant monitoring.

40-11. California Water Code section 13176, subdivision (a), states: *"The analysis of any material required by [Water Code sections 13000-16104] shall be performed by a laboratory that has accreditation or certification pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 100825) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code."* DPH certifies laboratories through its Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP).

Section 13176 cannot be interpreted in a manner that would violate federal holding time requirements that apply to NPDES permits pursuant to the Clean Water Act. (Wat. Code §§ 13370, subd. (c), 13372, 13377.) Section 13176 is inapplicable to NPDES permits to the extent it is inconsistent with Clean Water Act requirements. (Wat. Code § 13372, subd. (a).) The holding time requirements are 15 minutes for chlorine residual, dissolved oxygen, and pH, and immediate analysis is required for temperature. (40 C.F.R. § 136.3(e), Table II) Due to the location of the Facility, it is both legally and factually impossible for the Discharger to comply with section 13176 for constituents with short holding times.

C. Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements

1. **Acute Toxicity.** Consistent with Order R5-2008-0185-01, semi-annual 96-hour bioassay testing is required to demonstrate compliance with the effluent limitation for acute toxicity.
2. **Chronic Toxicity.** Consistent with Order R5-2008-0185-01, semi-annual chronic whole effluent toxicity testing is required in order to demonstrate compliance with the Basin Plan's narrative toxicity objective.

D. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. Surface Water

- a. Receiving water monitoring is necessary to assess compliance with receiving water limitations and to assess the impacts of the discharge on the receiving stream.
- b. The existing permit required receiving water monitoring at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 (located 50 feet upstream), RSW-002 (located 200 feet downstream), and RSW-003 (located 3,000 feet downstream). Given the relatively long distance downstream from the discharge, Monitoring Location RSW-003 is not considered useful or representative in assessing the impact of the discharge on the receiving water. Monitoring Location RSW-002 provides adequate data needed to perform an

RPA and assess the potential impact of the discharge on Salt Creek. Therefore, this Order discontinues monitoring requirements at Monitoring Location RSW-003.

- c. The receiving water monitoring frequency and sample type for ~~fecal coliform organisms (weekly)~~, pH (weekly), dissolved oxygen (weekly), electrical conductivity (weekly), hardness (monthly), temperature (weekly), and turbidity (weekly) have been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01.
- d. Order R5-2008-0185-01 established receiving water monitoring for radionuclides, but did not require effluent monitoring. As shown in the following table, downstream receiving water data did not exceed the applicable Secondary MCLs. Therefore, monitoring requirements for radionuclides have not been retained from Order R5-2008-0185-01.

Table F-17. Radionuclide Data

Parameter	Collection Date	Downstream Receiving Water (PCi/L)		Secondary MCL (PCi/L)
		Maximum	Minimum	
Gross Alpha	October 2012	0.673	0.523	15
	October 2013	0.760	0.750	
Rad-266+288	October 2012	0.054	0.000	5
	October 2013	0.604	0.326	
Uranium	October 2012	1.980	0.751	20
	October 2013	1.660	ND ±0.220	

- e. In accordance with Section 1.3 of the SIP, periodic monitoring for priority pollutants for which criteria or objectives apply and for which no effluent limitations have been established. This Order requires monitoring for priority pollutants and other pollutants of concern at Monitoring Location RSW-001 quarterly during the third year of the permit term, concurrent with effluent monitoring, in order to collect data to conduct an RPA for the next permit renewal. See Attachment E, Section IX.D for more detailed requirements related to performing priority pollutant monitoring.
- f. Order R5-2008-0185-01 required receiving water monitoring at Monitoring Locations RSW-001 and RSW-002 for fecal coliform organisms. The Facility was upgraded to provide tertiary-level treatment and thus produces an effluent with total coliform at or below 2.2 MPN per 100 mL as a 7-day median, no more than 23 MPN/100 mL more than once in a 30-day period, and never to exceed 240 MPN/100 mL. The Basin Plan contains receiving water objectives for fecal coliform, a subgroup of total coliform, and with proper operation of the Facility, it is not possible for an effluent that is in compliance with the total coliform effluent limitation, to cause the receiving water to violate the fecal coliform objectives. Therefore, this Order does not contain monitoring requirements for fecal coliform organisms in the receiving water at monitoring locations RSW-001 and RSW-002. However, this Order retains effluent monitoring requirements for total coliforms organism.

2. Groundwater

- a. Water Code section 13267 states, in part, “(a) A Regional Water Board, in establishing...waste discharge requirements... may investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region” and “(b) (1) In conducting an investigation..., the Regional Water Board may require that any person who... discharges... waste...that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the Regional Water Board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a

reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, a Regional Water Board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports." The Monitoring and Reporting Program is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The groundwater monitoring and reporting program required by this Order and the Monitoring and Reporting Program are necessary to assure compliance with these waste discharge requirements. The Discharger is responsible for the discharges of waste at the Facility subject to this Order.

- b. Monitoring of the groundwater must be conducted to determine if the discharge has caused an increase in constituent concentrations, when compared to background. If monitoring indicates that the discharge has incrementally increased constituent concentrations in groundwater above background, this permit may be reopened and modified. Until groundwater monitoring is sufficient, this Order contains Groundwater Limitations that allow groundwater quality to be degraded for total coliform organisms when compared to background groundwater quality, but not to exceed water quality objectives. If groundwater quality has been degraded by the discharge, the incremental change in pollutant concentration (when compared with background) may not be increased. If groundwater quality has been or may be degraded by the discharge, this Order may be reopened and specific numeric limitations established consistent with Resolution No. 68-16 and the Basin Plan.
- c. This Order requires the Discharger to continue groundwater monitoring and includes a regular schedule of groundwater monitoring in the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program. The groundwater monitoring reports are necessary to evaluate impacts to waters of the State to assure protection of beneficial uses and compliance with Central Valley Water Board plans and policies, including Resolution No. 68-16. Evidence in the record includes effluent monitoring data that indicates the presence of constituents that may degrade groundwater and surface water.

E. Other Monitoring Requirements

1. Biosolids Monitoring

Biosolids monitoring is required to ensure compliance with the biosolids disposal requirements contained in the Special Provision contained in section VI.C.5.a. of this Order. Biosolids disposal requirements are imposed pursuant to 40 CFR Part 503 to protect public health and prevent groundwater degradation.

2. Water Supply Monitoring

Water supply monitoring is required to evaluate the source of constituents in the wastewater. In order to better characterize the salinity of the influent, this Order increases the monitoring frequency for electrical conductivity and total dissolved solids from annually to quarterly. Consistent with Order R5-2008-0185-01, this Order requires annual water supply monitoring for standard minerals.

3. UV Disinfection System Monitoring

UV system monitoring and reporting are required to ensure that the UV system is operated to adequately inactivate pathogens in the wastewater. UV disinfection system monitoring is imposed to achieve equivalency to requirements established by DPH, and the NWRI/AWWARF's "*Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Water Reuse.*"

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Central Valley Water Board has considered the issuance of WDR's that will serve as an NPDES permit for the Facility. As a step in the WDR adoption process, the Central Valley Water Board staff has developed tentative WDR's and has encouraged public participation in the WDR adoption process.

A. Notification of Interested Parties

The Central Valley Water Board notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe WDR's for the discharge and provided an opportunity to submit written comments and recommendations. Notification was provided through the local newspaper, posting of the NOPH at various local public buildings, and posting on the City of Williams website.

The public had access to the agenda and any changes in dates and locations through the Central Valley Water Board's website at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/

B. Written Comments

Interested persons were invited to submit written comments concerning tentative WDR's as provided through the notification process. Comments were due either in person or by mail to the Executive Office at the Central Valley Water Board at the address on the cover page of this Order.

To be fully responded to by staff and considered by the Central Valley Water Board, the written comments were due at the Central Valley Water Board office by 5:00 p.m. on **28 April 2014**.

C. Public Hearing

The Central Valley Water Board held a public hearing on the tentative WDR's during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: 5/6 June 2014
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Interested persons were invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Central Valley Water Board heard testimony pertinent to the discharge, WDR's, and permit. For accuracy of the record, important testimony was requested in writing.

D. Reconsideration of Waste Discharge Requirements

Any aggrieved person may petition the State Water Board to review the decision of the Central Valley Water Board regarding the final WDR's. The petition must be received by the State Water Board at the following address within 30 calendar days of the Central Valley Water Board's action:

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
P.O. Box 100, 1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

For instructions on how to file a petition for review, see
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/wqpetition_instr.shtml

E. Information and Copying

The Report of Waste Discharge, other supporting documents, and comments received are on file and may be inspected at the address above at any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copying of documents may be arranged through the Central Valley Water Board by calling (916) 464-3291.

F. Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in being placed on the mailing list for information regarding the WDR's and NPDES permit should contact the Central Valley Water Board, reference this Facility, and provide a name, address, and phone number.

G. Additional Information

Requests for additional information or questions regarding this order should be directed to Elizabeth Thayer at (916) 464-4671.

ATTACHMENT G – SUMMARY OF REASONABLE POTENTIAL ANALYSIS FOR CONSTITUENTS OF CONCERN

Constituent	Units	MEC	B	C	CMC	CCC	Water & Org	Org. Only	Basin Plan	MCL	Reasonable Potential
2,3,7,8-TCDD	pg/L	17.9	NA	0.013	--	--	0.013	0.014	--	30	No ¹
Alachlor	µg/L	0.088 J	NA	ND	--	--	--	--	ND	2	No ¹
Aluminum, Total Recoverable	µg/L	135 ²	NA	200	750 ³	--	--	--	--	200	No
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	4.8	NA	1.77	1.77 ³	1.93 ⁴	--	--	--	--	Yes
Bentazon	µg/L	0.36 J	NA	ND	--	--	--	--	ND	18	No ¹
Bis (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	µg/L	2.3 J	NA	1.8	--	--	1.8	5.9	--	4	No ¹
Bromoform	µg/L	<0.14	NA	4.3	--	--	4.3	360	--	80 ⁵	No
Carbon tetrachloride	µg/L	0.36 J	NA	0.25	--	--	0.25	4.4	--	0.5	No ¹
Chloride	mg/L	230	NA	230	860 ³	230 ⁶	--	--	--	250	Yes
Chlorodibromomethane	µg/L	0.13 J	NA	0.41	--	--	0.41	34	--	80 ⁵	No
Chloroform	µg/L	0.38 J	NA	80	--	--	--	--	--	80 ⁵	No
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	0.18 J	NA	0.015	0.025 ⁷	0.015 ⁸	--	--	--	--	No ¹
Cyanide, Total (as CN)	µg/L	5.1	NA	5.2	22	5.2	700	220,000	--	150	No
Diazinon	µg/L	0.068 J	NA	0.10	0.16 ⁷	0.10 ⁸	--	--	--	--	No
Dichlorobromomethane	µg/L	0.2	NA	0.56	--	--	0.56	46	--	80 ⁵	No
Electrical Conductivity @ 25°C	µmhos/cm	1,838 ²	620 ²	900	--	--	--	--	--	900	Yes
Iron, Total Recoverable	µg/L	22 ²	NA	300	--	--	--	--	--	300	No
Manganese, Total Recoverable	µg/L	7.4 ²	NA	50	--	--	--	--	--	50	No
Mercury, Total Recoverable	µg/L	0.015	NA	0.050	--	--	0.050	0.051	--	2	Yes ⁹
Nitrate Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	20	NA	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	Yes
Picloram	µg/L	0.32 J	NA	ND	--	--	--	--	ND	500	No
Simazine (Princep)	µg/L	0.16 J	NA	ND	--	--	--	--	ND	4	No
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1,133 ²	NA	500	--	--	--	--	--	500	Yes
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L	0.38 J	NA	80	--	--	--	--	--	80 ⁵	No

Constituent	Units	MEC	B	C	CMC	CCC	Water & Org	Org. Only	Basin Plan	MCL	Reasonable Potential
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General Note: All inorganic concentrations are given as a total recoverable.

MEC = Maximum Effluent Concentration

B = Maximum Receiving Water Concentration or lowest detection level, if non-detect

C = Criterion used for Reasonable Potential Analysis

CMC = Criterion Maximum Concentration (CTR or NTR)

CCC = Criterion Continuous Concentration (CTR or NTR)

Water & Org = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Water & Organisms (CTR or NTR)

Org. Only = Human Health Criterion for Consumption of Organisms Only (CTR or NTR)

Basin Plan = Numeric Site-specific Basin Plan Water Quality Objective

MCL = Drinking Water Standards Maximum Contaminant Level

NA = Not Available

ND = Non-detect

Footnotes:

- (1) See section IV.C.3.a of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) for a discussion of the RPA results.
- (2) Represents the maximum observed annual average concentration for comparison with the Secondary MCL.
- (3) USEPA National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 1-hour average.
- (4) USEPA National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 30-day average.
- (5) Represents the Primary MCL for Total Trihalomethanes which include bromoform, chlorodibromomethane, chloroform, and dichlorobromomethane.
- (6) USEPA National Recommended Ambient Water Quality Criteria, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 4-day average.
- (7) California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 1-hour average.
- (8) California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Freshwater Aquatic Life Protection, 4-day average.
- (9) See section IV.C.3.b of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F) for a discussion of the RPA results.

ATTACHMENT H – CALCULATION OF WQBELS

Parameter	Units	Most Stringent Criteria			HH Calculations			Aquatic Life Calculations									Final Effluent Limitations	
		HH	CMC	CCC	$ECA_{HH} = AMEL_{HH}$	AMEL/MDEL Multiplier _{HH}	MDEL _{HH}	ECA Multiplier _{acute}	LTA _{acute}	ECA Multiplier _{chronic} _c	LTA _{chronic}	Lowest LTA	AMEL Multiplier ₉₅	AMEL _{AL}	MDEL Multiplier ₉₉	MDEL _{AL}	Lowest AMEL	Lowest MDEL
Ammonia Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	--	1.77	1.93	--	--	--	0.32	0.57	0.78	1.51	0.57	1.55	0.9	3.11	1.8	0.9	1.8

¹ As described in section IV.C.2.c of the Fact Sheet (Attachment F), calculation of effluent limitations for the protection of human health and aquatic life are determined without the allowance of dilution credits.